THE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE

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CONTRIBUTIONS.

The "Local Government Service" is published the 1st of each month. All contributions, which should be addressed to the Editor, "Local Government Service," 24, Abingdon Street, Westminster, S.W.1, should be received not later than the 15th of the preceding month. Opinions expressed by correspondents or in contributed articles are not necessarily held by the Editor or the Association. The Editor welcomes articles and letters on subjects of interest to Local Government Officers. Such contributions should not be of too great length, and should be typed on one side of the paper.

"By these three virtues be the frame sustained
Of British Freedom—Independent Life,
Integrity in Office, and o'er all
Supreme, a passion for the Commonweal."—THOMSON.

Note of the Month.

AFTER a full and free discussion of all the points involved, the Special Conference, which met at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Saturday, the 15th March, authorised the National Executive Council to carry out amalgamation of the N.A.L.G.O. with the National Poor Law Officers' Association and its activities.

The Conference was distinguished by keenness to ascertain the effects of the proposed amalgamation on the status and the aims of the N.A.L.G.O. and its existing members, and this keenness displayed itself in questions concerning not only the broader aspects of amalgamation, but also points of detail.

The debate throughout was of a very high order, and we feel constrained to refer particularly to the manner in which Mr. L. H. Taylor spoke in moving the Salford amendment. When he sat down he had fully earned the generous meed of applause which was accorded to him, and it was due to no fault in the manner, or presentation of his argument, that the amendment was defeated, but rather to the weakness of the case he had to argue. In the course of his speech he quoted an extract from the County Officers' Gazette purporting to give an expression of opinion by Mr. John Simonds (Secretary, N.P.L.O.A.) on amalgamation with Nalgo. Actually, the extract was a distortion of a statement Mr. Simonds had made in regard to members of his organisation joining a *local* Association with no national affiliations. Mr. Taylor, of course, quoted this article in the sincere belief that Mr. Simonds' statement had been reproduced correctly, but the incident serves to show that the opposition to amalgamation will not hesitate to mislead our members in every possible way. It is quite likely that Nalgo will suffer a campaign of abuse and misrepresentation, and in every case we ask members to place no reliance on statements from outside sources as to the Association, its aims, acts or policy. We have, in the past, been the object of almost scurrilous abuse, and have met it with calm demeanour, relying on our faith that truth must prevail, and that the more violent the abuse, and the greater the misrepresentation, the weaker is the case of our rivals.

Now that amalgamation has been sanctioned all that remains is for the agreement of the other contracting body to be obtained, and then it will be the duty of all members to do all in their power to welcome the newly-transferred colleagues as fellow Officers in a vital service and as fellow members in their common Association.

Nalgo Summer School.

2nd to 16th August, 1930.

LAST month our note dealt in general terms with the proposal to hold a Nalgo Summer School at Keble College, Oxford. This month we are able to give some of the details of the scheme which have developed rapidly during the last few weeks.

It has now been arranged for the bulk of the tutorial work to be in the hands of Lecturers from the staff of the London School of Economics and Political Science, which is a recognised College of the University of London. It is not out of place to mention that the School of Economics, established in 1895, has attained a widespread popularity, both in the United Kingdom and abroad, for the study of problems relating to government and commerce.

The opening lecture at the Summer School will be given by H. J. Laski, M.A., Professor of Political Science in the University of London. Professor Laski is well-known to many Local Government Officials. He is at present serving on the Royal Commission appointed to enquire into the growth of the so-called administrative law.

W. A. Robson, B.Sc. (Econ.), LL.M., Ph.D., Barrister-at-Law, has undertaken to deliver six lectures on the Law of Local Government. H. Finer, D.Sc. (Econ.), and K. B. Smellie, B.A., will give twelve lectures on the Structure of English Local Government, the Relation between the Central and Local Authorities, and will mention the local government systems in some of the colonies and foreign countries.

Another point of view will be taken in the tea-talks—informal meetings after tea in the common room. Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P., has undertaken to speak at one of these talks on August 4th. An invitation to attend another talk was given to Sir Arthur Robinson, of the Ministry of Health; unfortunately, he will not be able to go to Oxford, but his letter is so interesting that we are printing it in full:—

MINISTRY OF HEALTH,
Whitehall, S.W.1.
10th March, 1930.

Dear Mr. Hill,

I am sorry that I have not answered earlier your letter of the 28th February, with reference to the Summer School to be held at Oxford in August next. I was very interested and pleased to read of the proposals as I feel that there is real need for the provision of facilities for the discussion of the problems and organisation of local government at the present time, and I have delayed my answer to see whether it was in any way possible for me to be of assistance. Unfortunately, as you will appreciate, the date proposed is very difficult for me, inasmuch as it comes just at the end of the Parliamentary Session, and at the very time I have had to arrange to take such holiday as I can manage to fit in during the present period of pressure. In the circumstances, I very much regret that it will be impossible for me to attend the School, but I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my cordial hopes of its success.—Yours very truly,

W. A. Robinson.

HIGH STREET, OXFORD. [*Photo: Alden Press, Oxford.*

Croyde Bay Holiday Camp.

By W. G. Auger (St. Pancras).

I visited this Camp on behalf of the N.E.C. to advise as to its suitability for our members.

The Camp is situated in a sandy bay on the North Devon coast, between Baggy Point on one side and Hartland Point on the other. There is a very wide stretch of sea front, with Lundy Island in the distance. On a clear day Clovelly can be seen across the bay. The old world village of Croyde is about a quarter of a mile away, and with its winding lanes and thatched cottages is a typical picture of Devon. The renowned golf links of Saunton are easy of access.

The nearest railway station is Braunton (3 miles). Motor buses from this station pass the Camp every half hour during the summer months. Barnstaple, one of the oldest, if not the most ancient, towns in England, noted for its potteries, which are well worth a visit, can be reached by motor bus.

Amenities.

Now about the Camp itself, which is 6½ acres in extent, on sandy soil, modern sanitation, detached bungalow huts suitable for families, couples and single persons. Each hut is provided with water and a lavatory basin, and an unlimited supply of hot water can be obtained from the kitchen. Hot baths are provided without extra charge, and children are specially catered for. The large, light and airy pavilion contains a dining hall, concert and dance room. The wide sandy bay offers safe and excellent bathing facilities; for those who care for tennis hard courts are provided, and also a green for clock golf.

Those of our members who desire a care-free holiday, no formality, no dressing for dinner, this is the place to go to, and I have booked up to spend my holiday there, to enjoy the beautiful country and scenery.

TERMS.

I now come to the most important item—"terms":—May £2 2s., June £2 5s., July and August £2 7s. 6d., September £2 5s., reduced price for children according to age. Motors garaged for 5s. per week, motor cycles 2s. Four good meals per day, quantity unlimited, sandwiches provided when you go out for a trip.

Make up your mind at once to prevent disappointment, and write to Mr. Hill, General Secretary, 24, Abingdon Street, S.W.1.

The Special Conference.

Proposed Amalgamation with N.P.L.O.A. Approved.

The Special Conference held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Saturday, March 15, was in session for some three hours, and considered the proposed amalgamation with the National Poor Law Officers' Association in all its aspects.

The Report and proposals of the National Executive Council embodied in the Agenda were approved and adopted.

Upon the President, Mr. A. P. Johnson, taking the Chair at 3 p.m. and declaring the proceedings open, Mr. H. C. Pendrill, Woolwich, asked that the Resolution and the date of the National Executive Council meeting calling the Special Conference should be read. The General Secretary did so, and the Chairman then called on Mr. F. Marsden to move the Resolution in regard to the amalgamation of the National Association of Local Government Officers and the National Poor Law Officers, Association, Incorporated.

In doing so, Mr. Marsden stated that the Report and Motion appearing on the Agenda were the result of long conferences and careful consideration. The ideal actuating those who took part in these conferences was to make Nalgo the one big organisation covering the whole service throughout the whole country. On the general aspect, he maintained that it was right to amalgamate because it would be better to have one dominant body by consent. On the lowest possibility of transferred membership the addition would increase the prestige of Nalgo while the type of Official who would come over as a result of amalgamation was very high.

He dealt with the financial aspects and with the various activities, amplifying the bare figures given in the Agenda. He claimed support for the motion on the grounds that as a result of amalgamation Nalgo would cover Great Britain and be the voice in every Council speaking for the whole Service. Hearty applause was accorded to his speech.

Mr. J. W. Pickup, Blackpool and District, asked when details of the proposed amalgamation were settled, and was informed that this was done at a joint meeting which took place on Sunday, the 9th February.

The Financial Position.

Mr. W. J. Blainey, South Wales and Monmouth District Committee, asked for the financial position of the N.P.L.O.A. and this request was met by Mr. W. E. Lloyd, the Honorary Treasurer, who gave the position as shown by the last balance sheet of that body, and stated that, quite apart from any amount due in respect of unpaid subscriptions, it was his firm opinion that amalgamation was worth while. He pointed out to Conference that if Nalgo could get an accession of some thousands of members it would welcome them in any case, whereas, by amalgamation not only did the Association gain new members, but receive with them actual accumulated funds.

Mr. W. W. Armitage, a member of the Sub-Committee taking part in the negotiations, seconded the motion of the N.E.C.

Mr. H. Copland, East Midland District Committee, raised three questions in regard to the assets of the National Poor Law Officers' Association and their legal right on transfer; the cost of transferred staff; and whether the autonomy of branches in regard to admission of members would be affected on amalgamation. Mr. Marsden replied on the first point that satisfactory legal advice had been received in regard to the transfer of assets, and that with regard to autonomy of branches and their rights of admitting or refusing members they would be governed by the decision of Conference, which was paramount in the Association. As regards the staff transferred to Nalgo, they would be considered as employed by the Association, and the cost would be debited to the various activities using their services, just as obtained with the existing staff.

Mr. C. E. Knowles, supporting the Resolution, stated that, as a former member of the National Poor Law Officers' Association, he could assure Conference that it was among the most important Associations in the country, and that the dignity of Nalgo and its members would be in no way lowered by the amalgamation. He stressed the value of absorbing an existing active and honourable Association, and asked his hearers to adopt Consolidation, Co-operation and Co-ordination as their slogan.

Miss A. A. Page, Bethnal Green, asked how much of the assets of the N.P.L.O.A. was in the form of outstanding subscriptions, and was informed by the Honorary Treasurer that no account had been taken of such outstanding amounts.

Mr. R. Williams, South Wales District Committee, then referred to the N.P.L.O.A. balance sheet, showing an amount in respect of subscriptions unpaid, and was informed only the actual assets had been reckoned in considering the financial side of the proposed amalgamation.

In reply to Mr. A. J. C. de Renzi, who asked whether there was any danger of the N.P.L.O.A. members transferring to the Union, which had a lower subscription rate than the Association, it was stated that the leaders of the N.P.L.O.A. were confident of carrying over the bulk of their members with them.

Mr. F. B. Merriman, Reading, in supporting the Resolution, urged the meeting to concentrate on the broad points of policy and to disregard matters of petty detail.

Mr. G. Brown, Preston, Mr. A. Webb, Brighton, and Mr. H. Allen, West Riding, also supported the motion of the National Executive Council.

The Salford Amendment.

Mr. L. H. Taylor, Salford, in moving an amendment standing in the name of the Salford Branch asking that the special Conference should be adjourned to a later date, and that in the meantime the Branches should be supplied with the fullest possible information in regard to the N.P.L.O.A. and the financial considerations involved in the proposed amalgamation, said that he did not desire to be considered as in opposition to the National Executive Council, but as stating that Branches were not in a position to vote because of lack of information. He, therefore, pressed that all possible information on every detail should be supplied to the Branches and that the Conference should be resumed with every item of possible information in its possession. Mr. J. W. Pickup seconded the amendment.

Mr. G. Wolfenden, Yorkshire District, opposed this amendment stating that Branches had been in a position to obtain further information through their appropriate District Committees.

Mr. W. W. Armitage then spoke, deploring the unnecessary consideration of details. He asked Conference to show confidence in the elected representatives. The Association in this amalgamation had an opportunity to ensure its greater progress, and he asked that nothing should be done to imperil that progress. It was necessary to maintain the solidarity of the great movement represented by Nalgo, and to widen its scope and influence by this accession of membership obtained by agreement and occasioning no rancour. The legal and financial aspects of the amalgamation had been dealt with by the experts of the National Executive Council, and their verdict was that legally and financially amalgamation was possible and advantageous. To delay giving their verdict would be dangerous. It might throw into the lap of a rival organisation a great opportunity which it would accept alertly.

The Salford amendment was put to the vote and declared lost. A Card Vote was then claimed, the result of which was—

For the Salford amendment	...	8,553
Against " "	...	24,908

As a consequence of this, the amendment of the Woolwich Branch, that the matter should be adjourned to the 1930 Annual Conference, was withdrawn.

The amendment by the Oldham Branch, that the "Eligibility for membership to the N.A.L.G.O. from members of the N.P.L.O.A. shall, upon amalgamation, be subject to the approval of the Branches concerned," was also withdrawn.

The Report and Motion of the N.E.C. was then put to the meeting point by point.

On Paragraph No. 3, allowing for four Poor Law Representatives on the N.E.C., Mr. J. W. Pickup, Blackpool and District, asked that a period should be placed to this special arrangement, and was informed that it would be competent for any Branch to move for such a period to be placed at a later Conference.

On Paragraph 7—"That the necessary procedure be taken to effect the Transfer of Engagements of the Poor Law Officers' Approved Society to the Nalgo Approved Society in time to operate as one approved Society

(*Continued at foot of next column.*)

Nalgo Provident Society

Agenda for Annual General Meeting.

Below we print the draft Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Nalgo Provident Society, to be held on the 7th June, 1930 :—

1. Appointment of Chairman.
2. To Confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 18th May, 1929.
3. Financial Statement and Balance Sheet.
4. Annual Report.
5. Alterations to Rules :—

   To consider the following amendments of the Rules of the Society submitted by the Committee of Management :—

   Rule 2.—Objects.

   Add the following new clause :—

   (*f*) Joint Life and Endowment Assurance.

   (*g*) Group Life and Endowment Assurance.

   Rule 4.—Investment of Funds.

   After the word "England" in the eighth line of Clause 1 add the words :—

   "or Wales or in real or heritable securities or land in Scotland."

   Clause 1 will then read as follows :—

   "So much of the Funds of the Society as may not be wanted for immediate use, or to meet the usual accruing liabilities, shall, with the consent of the Committee of Management or of a majority of the members of the Society present and entitled to vote in general meeting, be invested by the Trustees of the Society in any of the following ways, namely : in the Post Office Savings Bank or in any Savings Bank certified under the Act of 1863 or in the Public Funds or with the Commissioners for the reduction of the National Debt, or upon mortgage of freehold or leasehold property in England or Wales or in real or heritable securities or land in Scotland, in the purchase of land, or in the erection or alteration of offices or other buildings thereon as aftermentioned, or in any investment in which trustees are for the time being by law authorised to invest trust funds."

   Rule 14.—Life and Endowment Assurances.

   Delete from the fourth line of Clause 6 the words "and two satisfactory sureties."

   Clause 6 will then read as follows :

   "The Committee of Management shall have power to advance to members, under Tables III and IV of at least one full year's standing loans, within the surrender value of their policy and not exceeding one-half the amount of their assurance, on the written security of a member for the repayment of the amount advanced. The amount so advanced, with all interest thereon, may be deducted from the sum assured, without prejudice in the meantime to the operation of the security."
6. Election of Auditors.

   The present Auditors are Messrs. Jackson Pixley and Co., 58, Coleman Street, E.C.
7. Election of Committee of Management.

   To elect the Committee of Management which shall consist of the Trustees, the Treasurer, the Secretary and twenty other ordinary or honorary members of the Society for the year 1930-31.
8. Other Business (if any).

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from the 1st July, 1930," Mr. S. Lord asked permission to add the words "or the 1st January, 1931, as may be agreed by the two Societies." The reason for this suggested alteration was, he stated, that the 1st July, 1930, ended a quinquennial valuation period, and it might be more convenient, in view of that, to make the actual transfer from the 1st January, 1931.

The Report and the Motion containing the Heads of Agreement were then declared Approved and Adopted.

Annual Conference at Lowestoft.

Agenda.

The proceedings will commence, in the Conference Hall, Sparrow's Nest, Lowestoft, at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday, the 7th June, 1930, and at 9.30 a.m. on Monday, the 9th June, 1930. The Conference will adjourn for luncheon at 12.30 p.m., and will resume at 2.30 p.m. on each day unless otherwise determined.

On Saturday, the 7th June, 1930, the Annual General Meeting of the members of the Nalgo Provident Society will be held in the Town Hall, Lowestoft, at 9.0 a.m.

The Session on Saturday morning will be open to all Local Government Officers and the public.

Agenda.

1. OFFICIAL WELCOME BY THE MAYOR OF LOWESTOFT.

2. ADDRESSES.

3. PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONFERENCE HELD ON THE 18TH AND 20TH MAY, 1929; AND OF THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE HELD ON THE 15TH MARCH, 1930.

4. BENEVOLENT AND ORPHAN FUND.

(*a*) Purses, etc.

(i) The Mayoress of Lowestoft will receive the Purses of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund.

(ii) The Mayoress of Lowestoft will present the "Sir Homewood Crawford" Shield, the "Sir Charles Wakefield" Shield, and the "Bridlington" Cup.

(iii) To receive the Honorary Treasurer's Financial Statement.

(iv) To receive the Report of the Management Committee.

(*b*) Rules.

Notice of Motion given by the National Executive Council.

"To amend Rule 17 of the Rules and Constitution of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund as follows:—

"To substitute the word 'actual' for the word 'possible' in Sub-section (i) of Clause (*a*) of Rule 17."

(*c*) Subscriptions.

Notice of Motion given by the Norwich Branch.

"That the National Executive Council be asked to consider the introduction of a scheme of subscription to the B. & O. Fund based upon a graduated scale according to salary, and report as to the advisability of the adoption of such a Scheme, with details of a graduated Scale."

(*d*) Annuities.

Notice of Motion given by the Scottish District Committee.

"That the Management Committee of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund be asked to consider the practicability of formulating a scheme for the provision of annuities on a generous scale to claimants owning a capital sum of money which they are willing to hand over to the Association in consideration of an annuity for life, and that the Committee be empowered to put such a scheme in operation if deemed advisable by them."

5. PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

6. ELECTION OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND HONORARY OFFICERS.

To receive the President's announcement of the result of the Ballots.

7. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR THE ENSUING YEAR.

Notice of Motion given by the National Executive Council.

"That Messrs. Jackson, Pixley & Co., Chartered Accountants, of 58, Coleman Street, London, E.C.2, be appointed the Association's Auditors for the year 1930–31, and that a fee of £157 10s. 0d. (One hundred and fifty-seven pounds, ten shillings) be paid to them for such services."

8. SCRUTINEERS.

To appoint scrutineers to record votes during the Conference.

9. TO RECEIVE THE HONORARY TREASURER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BALANCE-SHEET.

10. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

11. N.A.L.G.O. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.—EXEMPTION.

Notice of Motion given by the Southwark Branch.

"That it be referred to the Education Committee carefully to consider the question of granting for a limited period exemption from the Preliminary and Intermediate Examinations of the Association to Local Government Officers who have had several years' experience in the service and hold responsible positions, but who by reason of age desire to proceed to the Final Examination direct without having to take the more general educational subjects set in the two previous examinations provided always that their standard of education is equal to that set in such examinations."

12. N.A.L.G.O. INTERMEDIATE EXAMINATION.—EXEMPTIONS.

Notice of Motion given by the Somerset Branch.

"That candidates who satisfy the examiners in a majority of subjects in the N.A.L.G.O. Intermediate Examination be exempted from taking those subjects in a subsequent examination provided that within a period of twelve months they obtain a pass at one examination in the remaining subject or subjects."

13. EDUCATION—ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS.

Notice of Motion given by the Barking Branch.

"That this Conference instructs the National Executive Council to consult with the Board of Education, the Association of Education Committees, and the Association of Directors and Secretaries of Education with a view to exploring the possibilities of enabling officers engaged in educational administration to secure teaching experience which, combined with their administrative experience, will qualify them for appointment to senior posts in the educational service."

14. EDUCATIONAL POLICY.

Notice of Motion given by the Glasgow and District Branch.

"That this Conference requests the National Executive Council to take all reasonable steps to bring the Association into closer contact with the provincial Universities and Colleges—with a view to the broadening of the Educational Policy of the Association."

15. SUMMER SCHOOL.

Notice of Motion given by the Wakefield and District Branch.

"That this Conference welcomes the action of the National Executive in organising a Summer School at Oxford, and directs the National Executive to urge Local Authorities to encourage Local Government Officers to attend by granting one week's leave of absence without loss of salary."

16. SALARIES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

Notice of Motion given by the Dumbartonshire Branch.

"That the National Executive Council:—

(1) ascertain the salaries paid to all Local Government Officers by all Local Government Bodies throughout the country:

(2) in cases where the salaries paid fall below the Nalgo scale, the N.E.C. negotiate with the bodies concerned with a view of securing improvement:

(3) report to the Conference to be held in 1931 giving:—information (*a*) as to salaries paid by all Local Governing Bodies; particulars (*b*) as to Authorities who pay and officials who receive less than the Nalgo scale; details (*c*) as to the results of negotiations in terms of clause (2):

(4) recommend to the 1931 Conference what steps should be taken by the Association to secure the standard of decency and comfort which it is assumed the Nalgo scale would provide."

17. SUSTENTATION AND DEFENCE RESERVE FUND.

Notice of Motion given by the Dumbartonshire Branch.

"That the N.E.C. be instructed to institute a fund to be designated the Sustentation and Defence Reserve Fund to provide Sustentation in cases as the N.E.C. may determine and also for purposes of defence."

18. "LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICE."

(*a*) **Notice of Motion given by the Dumbartonshire Branch.**

"That the publication of the 'Local Government Service' be stopped forthwith and that the average yearly cost of publication for the last three years be credited to the Defence Reserve Fund."

(*b*) **Notice of Motion given by the West Riding County Officers' Branch.**

"That this Conference, recognising the vital need for an official organ commensurate with the enhanced and increased importance of the Association instructs the National Executive Council to appoint a special committee charged with the duty of producing a journal that will reflect worthily the status, opinions and aims of Local Government Officers."

(*c*) **Notice of Motion given by the Barking Branch.**

"That this Conference expresses its profound concern and dissatisfaction at the failure of the National Executive Council to interpret properly and carry out adequately the instruction of the Conference of 1929 with respect to a report upon the establishment of a journal which shall represent worthily the aims and functions of the National Association of Local Government Officers, and resolves to appoint now from the Conference a Special Committee to prepare forthwith a scheme for such a journal which shall replace the existing 'Local Government Service.'"

(*d*) **Notice of Motion given by the Southwark Branch.**

"That this Conference regrets that no steps appear to have been taken to effect a general improvement in the 'Local Government Service' since the last Conference, and calls upon the National Executive Council to deal with the matter without delay with a view to providing a journal worthy of the present status of the Association."

19. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Notice of Motion given by the Glasgow and District Branch.

"That this Conference requests the National Executive Council to take all possible steps to secure the general adoption of the recommendations made by the Royal Commission on Local Government and further requests that the evidence submitted before the Royal Commission on the Civil Service be reviewed in order that action may be taken along similar lines where desirable."

20. PUBLICITY AS REGARDS SALARIES AND PROMOTION.

(*a*) **Notice of Motion given by the Aberdeen, Banff and Kincardine Branch.**

"That this Conference of Local Government Officers welcomes the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Local Government that Local Authorities should consider how publicity given to invidious discussions of personalities in connection with questions relating to Salaries and Promotion can be minimised, as it is strongly of opinion that such public debates have a detrimental effect on the Service generally. The Conference therefore urges the National Executive Council to take all possible steps to secure that the said recommendation be given effect to by Local Authorities at the earliest opportunity."

(*b*) **Notice of Motion given by the North-Eastern District Committee.**

"That in view of the expression of opinion as to Publicity in regard to Salaries, and Promotion within the Service, given by the Royal Commission on Local Government in paragraph 479 of the Final Report (issued November, 1929), this Conference recommends the National Executive Council to consider the advisability of promoting suitable general legislation on similar lines to that in operation in Birmingham or to take such other steps as they deem necessary or desirable and that they seek the active co-operation of the Associations of all Local Authorities herein."

21. SECURITY OF TENURE.

Notice of Motion given by the Leeds Branch.

"That this Conference expresses its dissatisfaction with the inconclusiveness of the recommendation of the Royal Commission on Local Government with regard to security of tenure; and instructs the National Executive Council to take all possible steps to secure:—

(*a*) the amendment of the law so as to provide that, notwithstanding the provisions in Section 198

of the Public Health Act, 1875, and other analogous enactments empowering Local Authorities to dismiss their officers at pleasure, it should be competent for Local Authorities to enter into contracts with their officers providing for reasonable notice of termination of any such contract on either side, and that such contract should be binding on both parties;

(*b*) statutory protection for all officers whose tenure of office is, or may be, endangered by reason of the nature of their official duties, and/or

(*c*) the institution of a suitable court of appeal for all such officers."

22. SUPERANNUATION.

Notice of Motion given by the Essex County Officers' Branch.

"That in view of the transfer of Officials to County and County Borough Councils under the Local Government Act, 1929, which has created serious anomalies so far as Superannuation is concerned, this Annual Conference of the National Association of Local Government Officers earnestly urges the Minister of Health to promote in Parliament at the earliest possible date a Bill for the compulsory superannuation of all Local Government Officials.

"That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to all Members of Parliament with the request that they will use their influence toward the early promotion and passing of such a Bill."

23. HOLIDAY HOME.

Notice of Motion given by the Manchester Branch.

"That the National Executive Council be instructed to consider the question of acquiring a Nalgo Holiday Home."

24. HOSPITAL SERVICES.

Notice of Motion given by the Glasgow and District Branch.

"That this Conference notes with satisfaction that the principle of 'provision of Fee-paying wings in General Hospitals for patients unable to meet Nursing Home Charges' is now about to be generally adopted. The Conference further requests the National Executive Council to assist and advise where necessary to secure this benefit for members throughout the country."

25. ANNUAL CONFERENCE—RAILWAY FARES.

Notice of Motion given by the Gateshead Branch.

"That, with a view to encouraging and enabling all branches to send a representative to the Annual Conference in the future the railway fare (at the reduced rate) of one delegate from each Branch attending the Annual Conference be paid from the General Funds of the Association."

26. ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Notice of Motion given by the Stockport Branch.

"It having been observed that the usual two days allotted to the business of the Annual Conference do not afford time for a reasonable consideration of the same, and whereas Rule 21 of the Association governs only the opening day of the Conference, the National Executive Council be authorised to arrange that future Conferences be extended to three days (if necessary), i.e., the Saturday preceding Whit Sunday and the following Monday and Tuesday."

27. VOTING AT CONFERENCE.

Notice of Motion given by the Maidstone Branch.

"That this Conference is of opinion that the system of voting as at present carried out at the sitting of the Conference is wrong, and does not interpret properly the voting of the Delegates and the Branches they represent, and that an up-to-date system of voting be instituted."

28. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL—ANNUAL REPORT.

Notice of Motion given by the Barking Branch.

"That the National Executive Council be instructed that for the Conference of 1931 and for all future Annual Conferences a copy of an Agenda giving resolutions to be moved and recommendations made by the National Executive Council be sent to each Branch in time to permit full consideration of such Agenda and motions or amendments to be tabled by Branches before the day appointed for the submission by branches of resolutions for the Conference."

AMENDMENT OF RULES.

29. DONATIONS TO CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS AND OBJECTS. ADDITION OF NEW RULE.

Notice of Motion given by the Salford Branch.

"That the following Rule be added to the Rules and Constitution of the Association, namely:—

'It shall be competent for the National Executive Council, out of the General Fund of the Association, and for District Committees and Branches, out of their respective General Funds, to make donations to any charitable or other institution or object.'"

30. RULES 3 AND 4—HONORARY MEMBERS.

Notice of Motion given by the Glasgow and District Branch.

"That Rules 3 and 4 be altered to provide that Branches may elect to Honorary Membership of the Branch retired members and others—including those who have not been Local Government Officers—who have rendered outstanding services to the Branch."

31. RULE 19 (*b*)—HONORARY OFFICERS.

Notice of Motion given by the North-Western and North Wales District Committee.

"New Rule to read:—

'Nominations may only be submitted by the Council for the Office of President, and nominations for the other Honorary Officers may only be submitted by the Council and/or a District Committee, and all Honorary Officers shall be elected on such nominations, by the Annual Conference, and that the present Rule 19 (*b*) be amended accordingly.'"

32. RULE 33—CONSTITUTION OF NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Notice of Motion given by the Eastbourne Branch.

"That Rule 33 of the Rules and Constitution dealing with the Constitution of the Council be amended so as to include the three Vice-Presidents of the Association in such constitution."

33. RULE 51—REPRESENTATION OF CLASSES OF AUTHORITY.

(*a*) **Notice of Motion given by the National Executive Council.**

"To amend Rule 51 of the Rules and Constitution of the Association as follows:—

1. To substitute the following for sections (*d*) and (*e*):—

'If after the election, it is shown that any of the undermentioned classes have not secured representation on the Council it shall be entitled to have one member on the Council if it has a

membership equivalent to 50 per cent. of the unit of qualification:—

1. County Council and District Council (Scotland).
2. County Borough and Burgh.
3. Metropolitan Borough.
4. Borough.
5. Urban and Rural District Councils.
6. Dock, Harbour and River Conservancy Authorities.'

2. To delete all the words after the word 'concerned' in the third line of Section (*f*).

3. To delete all words after the word 'Council' in the third line of Section (*g*) to the end of the sentence.

4. To delete words after the word 'member' in the tenth line of Section (*g*) up to and including the word 'Rule' in the twelfth line.

5. By consequential amendments.''

(*b*) **Notice of Motion given by the West Riding County Officers' Branch.**

"That having regard to the probable large accession of members through the amalgamation of N.A.L.G.O. with the National Poor Law Officers' Association, the National Executive Council be instructed to prepare such amendments of Rules as will ensure adequate and proportionate representation of the various classes of authorities on the National Executive Council, and that for the time being the principle approved at the Annual Conference, 1929, be continued.''

34. RULE 55—BRANCHES.

(*a*) **Notice of Motion given by the Billericay and Brentwood Branch.**

"That Rule 55 of the Association be amended by adding the words 'or as may be sanctioned by the National Executive Council.' ''

(*b*) **Notice of Motion given by the Skipton Branch.**

"That a Clause be added to Rule 55, providing the opportunity for N.A.L.G.O. Members who have been transferred to towns away from their County Offices to become affiliated members of the Branch nearest to where they reside.''

35. RULE 77—LEGAL ASSISTANCE.

Notice of Motion given by the Blackburn and District Branch.

"That Rule 77 of the Association be amended by the addition of the following words: 'under no circumstances will a communication be forwarded by the Council to the Local Authority without first submitting same to the local Branch for their approval.' ''

36. RULES 5, 89, 93, 95—STANDING JOINT COMMITTEE.

Notice of Motion given by the National Executive Council.

"To amend the Rules and Constitution of the Association as follows:—

'Rule 5. To delete all the words after the word "purposes" on the 5th line of the Rule.

Rule 89. To delete all the words after the word "organisation" in the 2nd line of the Rule.

Rule 93. To delete the whole Rule.

Rule 95. To delete the first part of the Rule up to the word "representatives" on the 7th line of the Rule and to substitute therefor the following words: "Each Sectional or Professional organisation on the Standing Joint Committee shall be entitled to appoint two representatives on the Standing Joint Committee and to a Conference." ' ''

37. TO DETERMINE THE VENUE OF THE 1931 CONFERENCE.

(*a*) Invitation from Edinburgh Branch.

The following communication has been received from the Edinburgh Branch:—

Town Clerk's Office,
Edinburgh.

Dear Mr. Hill,

On behalf of the Edinburgh and District Branch I am instructed to invite the Association to hold the Annual Conference in 1931 in Edinburgh.

If the invitation is accepted I can assure the Conference that everything possible will be done here to make the visit even more outstanding that the former one.

Yours faithfully,

MARGARET J. ANDERSON,
Hon. Secretary.

38. ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS.

Dinner to N.E.C.

The President's Hospitality.

Mr. A. P. Johnson, President of the Association, entertained the members of the National Executive Council and some friends of the Association at dinner at the Hotel Victoria, on Friday the 14th March.

The event was not only thoroughly enjoyable, but was impressive by the standard of the speakers and the quality of their speeches to the various toasts. An impression of the wealth of wit and oratory may be gained from the toast list, which we reproduce below.

TOAST LIST.

"THE KING"

Proposed by ... ... THE PRESIDENT

"HIS MAJESTY'S MINISTERS"

Proposed by ... ... Sir WILLIAM E. HART (*Town Clerk, Sheffield*)

Response by ... ... Rt. Hon. A. GREENWOOD, M.P. (*Minister of Health*)
Rt. Hon. W. GRAHAM, LL.D., M.A., M.P. (*President of the Board of Trade*)
Rt. Hon. A. V. ALEXANDER, M.P. (*First Lord of the Admiralty*)

"HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT."

Proposed by ... ... F. E. WARBRECK HOWELL, Esq. (*Town Clerk, Manchester*).

Response by ... ... EARL RUSSELL (*Parliamentary Under-Secretary, India Office*)
G. BALFOUR, Esq., M.P. (Hampstead)
I. FOOT, Esq., M.P. (Bodmin)

"GUESTS."

Proposed by ... ... G. PARKER MORRIS, Esq., LL.B. (*Town Clerk, Westminster*)

Response by ... Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN ANDERSON, G.C.B. (*Permanent Under-Secretary, Home Office*)
I. G. GIBBON, Esq., C.B.E., D.Sc. (*Principal Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Health*)
W. J. BOARD, Esq. (*Town Clerk, Nottingham*)

"THE PRESIDENT"

Proposed by ... ... Sir HERBERT E. BLAIN, C.B.E.
Response by ... ... A. P. JOHNSON, Esq., M.A.

At Headquarters.

Meetings of the National Executive Council and Committees.

Among the many items dealt with at the meetings of the Standing Committees and National Executive Council, held at 24, Abingdon Street on the 14th and 15th March, were the draft Agenda of the Annual Conference, proofs of the Annual Report and the report on the findings of the Royal Commission on Local Government.

At the meeting of the National Executive Council the following were present :—Messrs. A. P. Johnson (Chairman), E. W. B. Abbott, A. G. M. Archibald, W. W. Armitage, W. G. Auger, J. T. Baker, H. Begg, A. G. Bolton, G. Carter, J. Chambers, E. A. Chapman, J. Chaston, F. R. Finch, T. Freeman, A. A. Garrard, J. E. Gee, D. L. Griffiths, M. Humphrey, W. E. Lloyd, F. B. Lunt, F. Marsden, M. O. McAuliffe, G. Parker Morris, A. Pinches, J. W. Singleton, J. H. Stone, R. Walls, W. H. Whinnerah, J. W. Wilkinson, F. J. Willett, and Mrs. G. Franks. The General Secretary was in attendance.

Office of President.

A letter from the East Midland District Committee, requesting the consideration of the desirability of the office of President being changed annually, was referred to the next meeting for attention.

Royal Commission Report.

The report of the Special Sub-Committee appointed to consider the Report of the Royal Commission on Local Government was approved.

The recommendations of the Sub-Committee were as follows :—

"*Recruitment.*—

(*a*) That a letter be sent to the Minister of Health urging him to set up a Departmental Committee as early as possible, and to consider extending the reference to that Committee so as to include the education and training of the Local Government Officer and the methods to be employed in securing this education.

(*b*) That a Committee be set up to prepare evidence for submission to the Departmental Committee."

"*Promotion and Transfer.*—

That in the opinion of this Committee no action was required to be taken by the Association under this heading at the moment in regard to the introduction of a compulsory Superannuation Bill."

"*Security of Tenure.*—

That a letter be sent to the Minister of Health urging him to introduce at the earliest possible moment a short Bill to carry out the recommendations of the Royal Commission."

"*Publicity as regards Salaries and Promotion.*—

(*a*) That the Minister of Health be asked to issue an official circular to all Local Authorities drawing attention to the recommendations of the Royal Commission and urging Local Authorities to act upon the suggestions.

(*b*) That a draft communication to Local Authorities be prepared by the Association and submitted to Branches with an intimation that it will be forwarded to their Local Authorities if they so desire.

(*c*) That a communication be forwarded to the Secretaries of the three Provincial Whitley Councils drawing attention to the recommendations under this heading and asking that they may be brought before the staff side for consideration and appropriate action."

Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association intimating that the General Council of that Association has agreed to the statement approved at the last meeting of the Council, without alteration. (This statement was published on page 52 of the March issue.)

Annual Conference.

Detailed consideration was given to the Draft Agenda of the Annual Conference, the Annual Report and the nominations of Honorary Officers.

Benevolent and Orphan Fund.

The grant of £25 to the "Help Yourself" Society towards the provision of prizes, which was sanctioned at the last meeting of the N.E.C., could not be accepted by the Society, which makes it a practice not to accept gifts from hospitals and charities. In notifying this decision the Secretary of the Society wrote : "They particularly asked me to stress the fact that they appreciate your kind remarks, and hope you will receive their decision in the same sporting way that your offer was made."

Life Membership.

Since the last meeting of the Committee, held on the 31st January, 1930, 44 Life Membership fees have been received, making the total number of Life Members since the inception of the Fund 5,169.

A request from the Essex County Officers' Branch that the wife of a member and a local tradesman should be made Honorary Life Members of the Fund in recognition of the valuable services rendered by them in connection with Whist Drives, which the Branch had organised in aid of the Fund, was referred to the Eastern Regional Committee for consideration and report thereon to the next meeting of this Committee.

Applications for Assistance.

The recommendations of the Regional Committees on applications for loans and grants were considered and decisions recorded.

The following gratifying letter was received from a beneficiary : "Owing to the fact that I am now going out to work, it gives me great pleasure to be able to inform you that I am now in a position to manage without your generous help from the N.A.L.G.O. B. & O. Fund. My little son has now attained his fifth birthday and has been attending school for about 3 months. Also, I am pleased to say that his general health has improved greatly during the last 12 months. It is with your kind help that I have been able to watch over him through his babyhood, and I shall always be grateful to the Society for the help they have been to me. Please accept my sincere thanks, and allow me to thank through you, the Committee and all subscribers to the Fund."

Service Conditions.

Among the matters dealt with by the Service Conditions and Organisation Committee were the Annual Cruise, the Rules for the Chess, Bowls and Golf Competitions, the preliminary report of the Special Sub-Committee on Education Administrative Posts, Certificates of Exception from Unemployment Insurance, a national consolidated scale of salaries, and the constitution of the Standing Joint Committee.

Sports Sub-Committee.

The Sports Sub-Committee reported that it had considered an analysis of the replies to the questionnaires in regard to the Chess and Bowls Competitions.

It was decided that the Chess Competition should be continued as a National Correspondence Chess Competition for 1930-31 on similar lines to the present competition, but that the teams comprise three instead of four boards, and that play over the board be permitted where practicable and desired by the teams concerned. More advertisement is to be given to the Competition, and arrangements made for space to be devoted in the Official Journal to Chess, including the publication of some of the best games in the Competition.

With regard to Bowls it was decided that the Competition for 1931 should be played by teams of four and between representatives of Districts, the trophy to be held by the winning District team. The entry fee will be 2s. 6d. for individual entries. Messrs. Hugh Begg, W. G. Auger and A. J. Croxford (Secretary) have undertaken to act as the Bowls Competition Committee for 1930.

Messrs. G. Carter, W. E. Lloyd and J. W. Singleton (Secretary) had undertaken to act as the Golf Competition Committee for 1930.

Certificates of Exception.

Representations to the Minister of Labour in regard to Certificates of Exception of Local Government Officers from Unemployment Insurance elicited the reply that, as stated in leaflet U.I.L. 28, it was not the practice to issue certificates of exception to persons below the age of twenty-one, and that no good reason could be seen for varying this normal practice.

National Consolidated Scale.

It was decided to formulate a National Scale for the consolidation of salaries, the draft scale to be submitted to the District Committees for their observations.

Whitley Councils.

It was also decided to prescribe a definite national standard of conditions of service, and to include therein the policy of the Association on Whitleyism.

Standing Joint Committee.

After consideration of the constitution of the Standing Joint Committee it was decided to recommend Conference to amend Rules 5, 89, 93 and 95 to permit of broader representation of Sectional and Professional Societies on Committee. The next meeting of the Committee was fixed for Saturday, 29th March, and a draft agenda was approved.

Retired Members.

Applications for the enrolment of ten Retired Members were received from Branches and approved.

Remote Members.

Attention having been drawn to the position of certain Branches, which included members in posts far removed from the main centre of the Branch and unable to take part in social activities, it was decided to issue a circular to Branches asking that they should permit members of other Branches who are employed or resident within their areas to participate in their social events on the same terms as their own members.

Law and Parliamentary.

Further attention was given to the questions involved in the inclusion of the St. Helens Justices staffs in the Superannuation Scheme, and on the request of the Branch a supplementary case was submitted to Counsel embodying the analogy between the Justices and the Managers of non-provided schools. In view of the opinion given by Counsel, the Branch stated that as Supplementary Teachers in non-provided schools in St. Helens had been admitted to the Superannuation Scheme an approach to the Minister of Health in the case of the Magistrate's Clerk and his staff might be successful. The General Secretary was instructed to interview the officials of the Ministry on the case.

Reports were considered of the legal aid given in certain cases and decisions made in regard to further action where necessary.

Education.

Various applications for exemption from the Preliminary Examination and from subjects in the Intermediate Examination were decided.

Summer School.

Further consideration was given to the progress of the arrangements for the Summer School and a report on the position is given on another page of this issue.

Relieving Officers' Course.

Arrangements were sanctioned and a form of agreement authorised for the Nalgo Correspondence Institute to take over and conduct an established course of tuition for students for the Relieving Officers' Examination of the Poor Law Examinations Board.

When the formal transfer has taken place full details of the course will be published.

Students' Lending Library.

So successful has been the progress of the Students' Lending Library and so great the demand for books that the N.E.C. sanctioned further expenditure on the purchase of books. Up to the 5th March, 119 copies of various books had been lent.

Finance.

The question of the establishment of a Fund from which loans for educational facilities could be made in suitable cases was referred to the Establishment and General Purposes Sub-Committee.

Sustentation Fund.

On the resolution of the B. & O. Fund Management Committee that sustentation grants should not be paid from the Fund, it was decided that future payments of such grants should be borne by the Defence Reserve Fund.

Communications to M.P.s.

In order to prevent unnecessary trouble it was decided that a circular should be forwarded to all Branches stating that communications on Association and allied matters should not be forwarded to the Association's representatives in Parliament except through Headquarters.

Nalgo Provident Society.

It was decided that further consideration should be given to the question of increasing the fees payable to Local Correspondents.

Financial Statement.

The Honorary Treasurer submitted a financial statement showing that for the year 1929 the total income, including the repayments of mortgages and the total expenditure, including investments, were £37,433 11s. 9d., and £34,485 11s. 11d.; whilst for the period 1st January, 1930, to 1st March, 1930, the receipts including the repayment of mortgages were £7,164 14s. 1d., and the payments including loans on mortgage, etc., were £7,270 16s. 9d.

Loans on Mortgage.

Applications for loans on mortgage were considered and decisions given.

Joint and Group Insurances.

In response to applications for the inclusion of Joint and Group Life Insurance in the scheme of benefits a motion was tabled for the Annual Meeting to allow of these objects being added to Rule 2.

Widows' Pensions.

The response to the questionnaire issued in regard to the proposal to institute a scheme of Widows' Pensions clearly shows that there is a demand amongst the membership for a Scheme; and that there is need for further publicity and propaganda on the subject. A full report is to be made to Annual Conference of the stage which has been reached up to date, together with the opinion of the Actuary, and, if Conference approves, the matter will be referred to the National Executive Council for further consideration. In the meantime further intensive propaganda will take place on the subject with frequent publication in the "Local Government Service," and before the 1931 Conference a further questionnaire will be sent to all members containing full particulars of the scheme.

Within the administrative County of London it is estimated that about 11,500 Local Government officers are under Superannuation Schemes which provide a lump sum on retirement with an annual allowance based on 80ths as compared with less than 3,000 officers who are under Schemes where the basis of the Superannuation allowance is on 60ths.

Insurances.

The attention of readers desiring any class of insurance is directed to the announcement on page ii of the cover which offers a substantial saving by insuring through the Local Government Guarantee Society, 7, 8 and 9, St. James's Street, S.W.1.

South Wales District.
(1 to be elected.)

G. Llewellyn, Monmouthshire C.C.; *F. J. Williams*, Swansea.

Scotland—Glasgow Area.
(1 to be elected.)

A. G. M. Archibald, Glasgow.

Scotland—East and North Area.
(1 to be elected.)

R. Walls, Edinburgh; *D. R. Bishop*, Aberdeen.

Scotland—South and West Area.
(1 to be elected.)

H. Begg, Lanarkshire; *J. Campbell*, Renfrewshire.

Direct Representative of Women Members.

Miss M. Anderson, Edinburgh; *Mrs. G. Franks*, Sheffield; *Miss E. Rogers*, Newcastle-on-Tyne; *Miss L. Woolridge*, Staffordshire C.C.

N.E.C. Election.

Nominations Received.

We publish below the list of members nominated in the various Districts for election to the National Executive Council, 1930-31. In accordance with rule the voting papers will be in the hands of Branch Secretaries by the 15th April, and will be distributed by them to members by the 23rd April.

Metropolitan District.
(4 to be elected.)

W. G. Auger, St. Pancras; *J. T. Baker*, Lambeth; *F. E. Barton*, Hammersmith; *H. E. Burwell*, Southall-Norwood; *C. A. Chapman*, Deptford; *F. R. Finch*, Willesden; *T. Fyans*, Hornsey; *A. A. Garrard*, East Ham; *D. McDougall*, West Ham; *B. Lawson*, Ilford; *Miss A. A. Page*, Bethnal Green; *A. Pinches*, Croydon; *F. J. Read*, Lewisham; *E. Sara*, Woolwich; *E. Sydney*, Leyton; *E. G. Whitney*, P.L.A.; *L. Warden*, Hendon.

North-Western District.
(7 to be elected.)

J. Bennett, Blackburn; *J. D. Cannell*, Warrington; *G. Carter*, Stockport; *T. Freeman*, Manchester; *J. E. Gee*, Lancs. C.C.; *H. W. Hewitt*, St. Helens; *R. Hext*, Colwyn Bay; *J. D. Jones*, Rhyl; *F. B. Lunt*, Liverpool; *H. Moss*, Oldham; *J. W. Pickup*, Blackpool; *L. Reeves*, Crewe; *J. W. Singleton*, Accrington; *W. E. Speight*, Bolton; *T. D. Suthren*, Wallasey; *J. H. Warren*, Birkenhead; *W. H. Whinnerah*, Manchester; *J. W. Wilkinson*, Southport; *F. J. Willett*, Salford; *J. H. Yates*, Altrincham.

North-Eastern District.
(1 to be elected.)

J. H. Stone, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Yorkshire District.
(3 to be elected.)

W. W. Armitage, Sheffield; *A. G. Bolton*, Harrogate; *J. Chambers*, West Riding; *J. H. Clark*, Wakefield; *F. M. Farmer*, Pontefract; *F. Marsden*, Bradford; *R. Wildgoose*, Leeds.

East Midland District.
(1 to be elected.)

J. Chaston, Kettering; *S. F. Weston*, Nottingham.

West Midland District.
(1 to be elected.)

A. J. C. de Renzi, Newcastle-under-Lyme; *A. Greatorex*, West Bromwich; *G. H. Jones*, Walsall; *G. A. Owen*, Smethwick; *A. Wotherspoon*, Stoke-on-Trent.

Eastern District.
(1 to be elected.)

C. F. Lolley, Bedford; *E. H. Scarlett*, Norwich; *J. Smith*, Southend-on-Sea.

South-Eastern District.
(1 to be elected.)

E. W. B. Abbott, Maidstone; *M. A. Howlett*, Folkestone.

Southern District.
(1 to be elected.)

D. L. Griffiths, Aldershot; *A. V. Kimber*, Bournemouth; *F. V. Merriman*, Reading; *A. F. Yarker*, Swindon.

South-Western District.
(1 to be elected.)

F. A. Gibbs, Somerset; *M. O. McAuliffe*, Bristol.

(*Continued in previous column.*)

Ayont the Tweed.

Last month the Scottish page was crowded out, and we wish to make it clear to our Scottish readers that no one was at fault. So much space was required for the Superannuation Tables and matter concerning the Special Conference that a good many contributions sent in had to be kept back.

The Scottish Council.

The meeting of the Scottish District Committee (to give the Council its new name) held in Edinburgh on 22nd February, was very largely attended. Mr. Begg occupied the Chair, and the meeting throughout was interesting, and the speaking sometimes of a lively and animated nature. At the previous meeting of the Council it has been decided by the narrow majority of one vote to discontinue publication of "The Scottish Nalgo." Mr. Walls, of Edinburgh, challenged the validity of the vote, and after some discussion the meeting unanimously decided to consider the question *de novo*. The Secretary thereupon submitted correspondence from the Stirling and District Branch, and from a firm of printers who made an attractive offer to publish the Journal almost without cost to the Council. On a vote being taken on the question "continue" or "discontinue" a large majority voted in favour of continuance, and after a good deal of discussion it was decided to remit to a small Committee consisting of Mr. Walls, Mr. John Campbell, of Kilbarchan, and Mr. Mortimer, to carry on the Journal for the next four issues. It is hoped to publish the next issue on 1st May, and all who have contributions should send them at once to Mr. Mortimer.

Mr. Borland submitted an interesting report of the Parliamentary Bills Committee, of which he is convener. He stated that the Committee had before them the draft schemes under the new Local Government Act, of several Burghs and Counties. Particular attention had been called to the clause dealing with the duties of the Medical Officer, and of the Sanitary Inspector and Veterinary Surveyor. In certain Schemes it was proposed to appoint the Medical Officer to the office of chief Sanitary Inspector. The Committee considered that in strict law such an appointment was illegal, but that a Council might be able to get round the legal question by making regulations which, in effect, would give the Medical Officer much the same power and authority as if he had been appointed chief Sanitary Inspector. The Committee, therefore, decided to communicate with the Department of Health and with the Secretary for Scotland, on the question, and to suggest that a clause should be inserted in all such Schemes which, while leaving the Medical Officer Head of the Public Health Department, left the Sanitary Inspector in the exercise of his full powers and duties under the Act. It was considered that such a Clause would be satisfactory to all reasonable officials whether Medical Officers or Sanitary Inspectors.

Another question which had been before the Committee was that of exception from Unemployment Insurance. This had arisen because of a circular issued by the Ministry of Labour withdrawing Certificates of Exception granted to Transferor Authorities, and stating that if exception were to continue then the Transferee Authority must apply for the same. The question which arose was whether the Clause in the Local Government Act which provided that a transferred officer was to hold his office by the same tenure and under the same terms and conditions included exception from Unemployment Insurance. It had been decided to get legal advice from Headquarters on that subject.

There had also been before the Committee a letter from Headquarters with regard to the new Superannuation Bill. The letter asked for a note of any points specially relating to Scotland which, in the view of the Council, ought to be included in the Bill. It was agreed to draw attention to the position of Registrars of Births, etc., and to ask that they be included in the proposed Measure under a Clause similar to that relating to Town Clerks of Royal Burghs.

Mr. Borland's report was adopted by the Council and the recommendations therein approved of.

When motions for the Annual Conference came to be considered Mr. Walls drew attention to the fact that the Management Committee of the Benevolent and Orphan Fund frequently received applications from widows of members who left sums varying from £300 or £400 to over £1,000. He felt that it would be a benefit both to the widows and to the Fund if the Management Committee were authorised to grant annuities to widows in exchange for their capital on a much more generous basis than any Insurance Company would offer. It was agreed to send a resolution on the subject for the Agenda of the Annual Conference, and it was left with Mr. Walls, Mr. Macfarlane, and the Secretary, to draft the resolution.

Greenock Grading Scheme.

After some negotiations with Greenock the Corporation have passed a satisfactory Grading Scheme. It is satisfactory in this respect at least, that it provides for automatic increases up to £200 in all the larger Departments. We think and contend that everyone admitted to the Service should rise at least to a figure round about £4 a week. Indeed, with the educational standard for admission to the Service now demanded by the larger Corporations this minimum standard for the rank and file will need to be considerably raised in the near future. In the Greenock Scale, there are, of course, several higher Grades. At a well-attended meeting of the Branch held on 27th February, the D.O.S. submitted the Scheme and gave an account of the negotiations. In doing so he spoke highly of the courtesy and helpfulness of certain officials. The meeting warmly approved.

Perth Salary Scale.

Perth Corporation approved a Scale on similar lines to that adopted in Greenock at their last meeting. A remit has been made to adjust details, the Corporation meanwhile approving of the Scheme generally. At a meeting of the Branch, Mr. Mortimer reported on the negotiations, and his actions in this matter were approved of.

Glasgow Grading.

The Executive of the Glasgow Branch came to a very important decision at a meeting held on 10th February. It was decided to make a remit to the Grading Committee to prepare an entirely new Scheme of Grading for submission to the Corporation, in view of the transference of staffs which takes place in May next. It was felt that it would be better to go forward with a comprehensive Scheme rather than submit a number of sectional applications dealing with salaries and anomalies in the service conditions. For the third time the Corporation has been urged by the Association to ask for exception from Unemployment Insurance, but our application has again been turned down. The reasons are various, but the members seem to be pretty unanimous in their resolve not to ask exception though about £75,000 would be saved.

Social Events.

Several very successful social events have taken place since our last issue. The West Lothian Whist Drive and Dance held in Linlithgow was again this year a great success. The same might be said of the Dumbartonshire function held in Clydebank. Provost Young made a racy speech and the D.O.S. took the opportunity in his reply of reminding him that the adoption of a Superannuation Scheme for the Burgh was now much overdue. The Provost appeared to agree that this was so. The Annual Dinner of the Edinburgh Branch held in the Royal Hotel was a most enjoyable function. Mrs. Franks, of the N.E.C., Mr. Hugh Begg, Chairman of the District Committee, the City Chamberlain, Treasurer Harvey, Bailie Ritchie, Mr. A. H. Macfarlane of Dundee, and the D.O.S., were amongst the guests, while Mr. McCartney, the City Engineer, made an excellent Chairman. There was much good speaking, and a host of good stories and after the Dinner there was a rather jolly dance.

The Lanarkshire Branch held its Annual Social in the Grand Hotel, Glasgow, on 15th February. The Social took the form of a Whist Drive, and after the play had ceased, and high tea had been served, there was much good speaking. Mr. Hugh Begg, the Chairman, the Provost of Hamilton, and the Provost of Coatbridge, taking part. Mr. [illegible] congratulated Sir W. E. Whyte on the honour of Knighthood so recently conferred on him by His Majesty. Sir William thanked Mr. Begg, and the company for their congratulations, and spoke of his long and continued interest in the work of the Association. The Paisley Whist Drive, held on 21st February, and the Greenock Whist Drive and Dance held on the 27th of that month were both very enjoyable functions.

Security of Tenure.

Discussion in the House of Lords.

On Tuesday, the 11th March, the Earl of Onslow, in the House of Lords, called the attention of the Government to the Report of the Royal Commission on Local Government asking whether it was proposed to give legislative effect to any of its recommendations, more particularly as regards—(1) Consolidation of Statutes, (2) creation of boroughs, (3) security of tenure for Local Government Officials, (4) disqualification of members of local authorities.

In regard to security of tenure his Lordship stated:—"In this connection there is only one point with which I need trouble your Lordships. It arises out of the case of Brown *versus* Dagenham Urban District Council. Your Lordships will probably remember this case. It was a matter which interested the noble Earl, Lord Russell. What happened was that the clerk had a contract calling for three months' notice, and was summarily dismissed. He brought an action and it was decided that, under Section 189 of the Public Health Act, whatever the contract might be the Council had the power to dismiss the officer at pleasure. That seems to be an undesirable situation, and I think it ought to be cleared up. In fact, my noble friend asked me if we could not see our way to doing it on the Local Government Act. I think we might have done so if there had been time. I forget the exact circumstances, but there was some delay or difficulty which made it impossible. It does seem to be right that you should enable local authorities to enter into reasonable contracts with their officials—six months or three months, or a year, but perhaps that is rather too long—three or six months certainly. If that is going to be done, it seems that that anomaly ought to be cleared up at once, or as soon as possible."

Replying, the Lord President of the Council (Lord Parmoor) stated that legislation would be required.

"The decision was," he continued, "that although a contract might have been made between a particular official and the local government authority of which he was an official, providing that he should not be dismissed without three months' or six months' notice, yet under an old law the authority could pay no regard to that, and could dismiss him without notice in a summary manner. I think myself that that is not right, and it ought to be altered in the direction that the Report indicated. There are two points I might mention with regard to this, which I think the noble Earl recognised at once as being improvements; they are dealt with in the Report of the Royal Commission. One of the points was that it is not desirable to have a sort of court of appeal on a tenure of this kind, because if a particular local authority has found that it cannot carry on its business with the help of a certain official, it makes matters very awkward if there is some provision by which he can continue there although out of accord with their wishes and their policy. That is an obvious inconvenience. But, on the other hand, a considerable number of these officials hold posts of which a certain amount of the salary comes from central resources. That is the case with certain officials of the road service and the Ministry of Transport. In those cases, where the payment comes only partly from the local authority, and partly also from the central authority, I think a provision operates now under which the local authority cannot dismiss the official without the assent of the central body which is contributing to the salary. I think I am right in that."

The Earl of Onslow: "Medical Officers of Health."

Lord Parmoor: "Yes, Medical Officers of Health, and no doubt some other important officials. The illustration which the noble Earl has given is, I think, a very apt one indeed. And therefore in the case of an ordinary tenure, provision was made that where an official desires the security to which he is entitled, he should not be dismissed without adequate notice. I think that ought to be put right. And I think that that is all really that the Royal Commission desired to be done."

The Earl of Onslow: "It is the clerks who are most concerned."

Lord Parmoor: "I quite agree, because you get there the security of the official, and yet you do not leave him as a burden for perhaps an indefinite time on the local authority. These were the two sides of the question with which the Royal Commission had to deal, and the determination I have given is, I think, the determination at which they arrived."

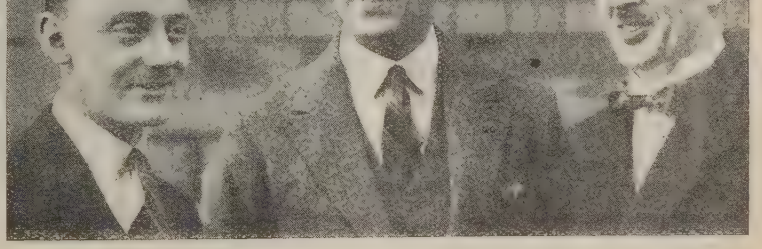
Personalia.

Mr. R. W. Coppock has been appointed Superintendent of the rate collectors' department of the Nottingham Corporation in succession to Mr. T. G. Rolfe, who, after 57 years' service, is retiring on March 31st. Mr. Coppock has been engaged in the City Treasurer's office for 21 years, and since 1919 has been collector of the rates in the central area of the city.

Mr. W. Davison, who for many years has acted as Hon. Secretary of the Hull Branch, was the recipient of a handsome presentation of a gold watch and chain and epergne, on his retirement from that office. The presentation, which took place on the 4th March, was made by Mr. H. G. Schofield, a past Chairman of the Branch.

Mr. R. J. Fittall, Town Clerk, President of the Plymouth Branch, was the victim of a motoring accident on the 26th February. In returning from an official visit with the Chairman of the Mental Hospital Visiting Committee, and in attempting to avoid a motor cyclist, his car collided with a wall and was badly damaged. Mr. Fittall sustained a fracture of his right arm, and this has taken longer to heal then was anticipated. The accident resulted in the Town Clerk's absence from the monthly meeting of the City Council for the first time since 1914, and reference to this was made by the Mayor in expressing the Council's sympathy.

Officers of the Epsom U.D.C., as the result of a meeting, which was addressed by the Chief Organising Secretary, Mr. Fox, have registered the Epsom M.O.A. Branch effective from the 1st February 1930.



Messrs. D. H. Berry, A.I.M.T.A., P. B. Barham, A.S.A.A., and H. L. Howarth, who have recently left Lytham, St. Anne's, to take up posts as Deputy Accountant, Jarrow-on-Tyne, Assistant Auditor, Salford, and Deputy Treasurer, Ilkeston, respectively.

Social Events.

Annual Dinners.

Wallsend.

The First Annual Dinner of the Wallsend Branch was held on the 5th February, the Town Clerk, Mr. W. V. Mulcaster, presiding. The Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. H. Duffy) were present, and a number of Members of the Council, together with all the Chief Officers. Items of music and singing were interspersed between the speeches, and the event was voted a very great success.

Batley.

The Third Annual Dinner of the Batley Branch was held on the 10th February, and was presided over by Mr. S. D. Jones, Electrical Engineer. There were present the Mayor (Councillor C. R. Spedding, J.P.), Alderman E. Bruce, Councillor H. Crothers, J.P., Alderman J. Denby, J.P., Alderman J. W. Schofield, J.P., Miss Councillor G. Elsie Taylor, together with all the Chief Officers. There was a large attendance of members, and the function was a particularly happy one, indicating a spirit of good will and cordiality between the Council and the Staff.

Coulsdon and Purley.

A record attendance marked the Coulsdon and Purley Branch Dinner at the "Red Lion" Hotel on the 24th Jan. The Surveyor, Mr. Gilbert A. Ballard, President of the Branch, presided and was supported by a full company of members, friends and guests, including the Chief Organising Secretary, Mr. W. Percy Fox. After an excellent Dinner there was dancing with many novel effects. During the evening presentations were made to Chief Officer Danley (who has taken up an appointment at Smethwick) of a canteen of cutlery and to Mr. Sutherland (who is going to Hackney) of a travelling bag, dressing case and umbrella, together with a fountain pen from the [illegible] Team, of which he has been a valuable member.

Derby.

The Derby Branch Annual Dinner was a great success. Mr. G. H. Lake, Borough Electrical Engineer, presided over a large attendance, which included the Mayor and Mayoress; Mr. L. Hill, General Secretary; Members of the [illegible]tion; the Town Clerk and other Chief Officers. In proposing the toast "The Mayor and Corporation" Mr. Hill put in a well-reasoned plea for the establishment of a Local Whitley Committee. In their speeches the Mayor, Councillor C. R. Bates (Chairman of the [illegible] Committee), and Alderman A. Sturgess paid tributes to the Association and expressed the view that it was the duty of *every* officer to be a member.

Bristol.

The Town Clerk (Mr. Josiah Green), as President of the Bristol Branch, occupied the chair at their Annual Dinner. He was supported by the Lord Mayor (Mr. Walter Bryant), the Sheriff (Mr. H. J. G. Rudman), and Members of the Town Council. During the evening testimony was paid to the efficiency with which the officers and staff carry out their work in the city.

Cheltenham.

Cheltenham Branch Dinner is always a success, and the last was the most largely attended of the series, some 60 guests being present, including Members' wives, who on this occasion were included in the invitation. The President of the year is the Borough Electrical Engineer (Mr. W. J. Bache, M.I.E.E.), who has twice previously occupied the post, and among those supporting him were the Mayor (Alderman C. H. Margrett, C.B.E.), Alderman Moore (Chairman of the Electricity Committee), the Town Clerk (Mr. R. O. Sencombe) and the heads of the various administrative departments, together with two visitors, Mr. Luker (Assistant City Treasurer of Gloucester and President of the Gloucester Branch), and Mr. Walter Ansell.

Cambridge.

The Annual Dinner of the Cambridge Branch was presided over by the President (Mr. N. Hurst) and attended by 94 Members and friends, including His Worship the Mayor (Councillor H. Franklin), Alderman P. J. Squires, Mrs. Councillor Stevenson, Mrs. Councillor Hartree, and Councillor Arnold, also the Town Clerk (Mr. C. H. Kemp), The Medical Officer of Health (Dr. A. J. Laird), The Borough Treasurer (Mr. A. G. Emburey), The Housing Architect (Mr. J. D. Bland) and the Borough Librarian (Mr. W. A. Fenton). The entertainment was provided by the "Odds and Ends" Concert Party. All the arrangements for the evening were made by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. Lambert), to whom thanks are due for one of the most successful dinners held by the Branch.

Carshalton.

The Annual Dinner of the Carshalton Branch was held at "The Grove" Hall, Carshalton, on 16th January, 1930, there being present Mr. H. L. Haslett, President, and about 40 members of the Branch and their friends. The guests included Mr. S. J. Cole, J.P., Chairman of the Carshalton Urban District Council, Councillor Major V. C. Bawden, D.S.O., Major C. P. Lovelock, M.B.E.,F.D., Mr. W. Percy Fox, Organising Secretary of The National Association of Local Government Officers, and others.

A much appreciated musical programme was provided by several members of the staff and their wives.

Epping Forest.

Mr. E. A. Miller, the Chairman, presided at the first Annual Dinner of the Epping Forest Branch, held in the Essex Room, "Great Eastern" Hotel, Liverpool Street, E.C., on Thursday, 30th January, 1930. Forty-two people were present. The guests of honour were Mr. Hill, the General Secretary, and his wife. The dinner, which was a great success, was followed by a musical programme, very much appreciated by all present. The arrangements were in the hands of Mr. Alfred Edwards (Branch Secretary).

Gainsborough.

Gainsborough officials recently held a most successful staff Dinner. The D.O.S. was present and thoroughly enjoyed a delightfully informal and happy function.

Glamorgan.

The Glamorgan Branch Annual Dinner at the "Royal" Hotel, Cardiff, was a fine success. Mr. Henry Rowland, Clerk to the County Council, presided, supported by Mrs. Rowland, the Chairman of the County Council (Alderman the Rev. W. Saunders), the Vice-Chairman (Alderman Herbert Jenkins), Alderman W. Jenkins, M.P. (Chairman of the Education Committee and the Standing Joint Committee), Alderman J. Evans (Chairman of the Finance Committee), Alderman Lieut.-Col. D. Watts Morgan, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.P., and a large company. In proposing the toast "N.A.L.G.O.", Alderman Wm. Jenkins, M.P., expressed his strong support of organisation among the staffs and said he thought every official in the County Hall should be a member of the Association. He also referred to the success of the Joint Advisory Committee and to the good relationship existing between the members of the County Council and the staff. Mr. W. P. Fox and Mr. C. B. Bright responded, Mr. Fox paying a well-deserved tribute to the Glamorgan Branch.

Glossop.

The Annual Dinner of the Glossop Branch was held at the "Norfolk" Hotel, Glossop, on Wednesday the 5th March. The Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. Mellor) accepted the invitation of the Branch to attend the Dinner as guests of the Association.

Rochford.

The third Annual Dinner and Dance of the Rochford and District Branch, which was held on the 7th February, 1930, was even a greater success than its predecessors. Eighty-three members and their friends assembled for Dinner and this number was increased to 130 for the dancing. Among those present were Mr. W. Harding Roberts, President, Mr. A. C. Madge, Chairman, Mr. S. C. Harris, Hon. Secretary, Mr. Frank Thomas, Divisional Organising Secretary, and Mr. A. C. Powell, newly appointed Clerk to the Rayleigh Urban District Council.

Mansfield.

Mr. A. H. Elliott, Surveyor to the Blackwell R.D.C., presided over the fifth Annual Dinner of the Mansfield Branch, being supported by the Mayor (Alderman Mrs. Wainwright), Mr. C. Brown, M.P., Alderman J. A. Beck, J.P., and a large company. Mansfield Dinners are always successful, and this was even more enjoyable than its predecessors.

Newcastle.

The Newcastle Annual Dinner and Dance was again a well-attended and most successful function. Mr. Edward Hollinshead, Clerk of the Wolstanton United U.D.C. presided. Tributes were paid to the Branch's magnificent work for the B. & O. Fund, and in regard to Superannuation special reference was made to the great services of Councillor A. Moran.

Shrewsbury.

Mr. Frank Gee (Borough Treasurer) presided over the Shrewsbury Annual Dinner. There was a good attendance, which included the Mayor and Members of the Corporation.

Skegness.

The Skegness Annual Dinner was most successful. The Chairman of the Council, Mr. B. Sweeten, was the principal guest.

Reigate.

On Saturday, 1st February, the Reigate Branch held their Annual Dinner and the 76 members and friends who were present were unanimous in stating that it was a most successful and happy function. Under the able chairmanship of the President (Mr. G. M. Gibbs) the programme was excellently managed and his jovial spirit did much to enliven the gathering. The musical programme was a source of great delight, the artistes being Mrs. Holmes (contralto), Miss House (soprano), Mr. H. C. Dale (tenor), and Mr. T. M. Jones (bass), while Mr. Will Duncan provided the humour. The accompanists were Miss L. R. Smith and Dr. H. J. Fardon.

Tonbridge.

At the Annual Dinner of the Tonbridge and District Branch many interesting speeches were made. Mr. Bradley, in the course of his speech, pictured the small governmental staff which Tonbridge had in the past and compared it with the much larger staff of the present time, while Mr. J. Moss predicted that in the future the work would swell still more.

Loughborough.

Mr. W. Granger (Borough Surveyor) presided over the second Annual Dinner of the Loughborough Branch. There was a large attendance and the function was most successful.

Notts C.C.

The Annual Dinner of the Notts County Council Branch at the "Black Boy" Hotel was a very happy and enjoyable function. Mr. K. Tweedale Meaby, Clerk to the County Council, presided, supported by Mr. B. W. L. Bulkeley, Director of Education, and a large company of officials. Special reference was made to Superannuation and satisfaction expressed that the County Council had adopted the Act.

Malvern.

A Malvern Dinner denotes a jolly evening. Mr. H. Hillyard again presided over a very happy function. A notable feature of the Dinners has been the menu, hitherto compiled by Mr. F. Layton. This year Mr. E. D. Wootten, Gas Manager and Electrical Engineer, was responsible, and worthily maintained Mr. Layton's high standard. Welcome guests were Mr. Ronald Frankau and his friends, who with song and monologue delighted those present, as did once more that delightful Aberdonian, Mr. W. Chisholm, with song and anecdote.

Hemsworth.

The Dinner of the Hemsworth Branch was held on 16 February, Dr. Ross Gardner (President) presiding. Dr. Gardner, in proposing the toast of the Association, drew attention to Hemsworth's record. It was a small Branch, but had a 100 per cent. membership, 19 life members of the B. and O. Fund, had contributed about £80 to the Fund and had won the Yorkshire shield.

Ilkeston.

Mr. E. J. E. Williams presided over the Ilkeston Annual Dinner. The Mayor and Mayoress and a large company were present. In responding to the toast "N.A.L.G.O.," Alderman Henshaw expressed appreciation of the Association's work and the view that the Council should follow the County Council's lead and adopt the Superannuation Act.

Lincoln.

Mr. H. S. Newton, Chairman of the B. & O. Management Committee, was the principal guest at the Lincoln Annual Dinner. Mr. G. Twist, President of the Branch, was in the chair, there being a large attendance, which included the Mayor of Lincoln and the City Sheriff.

Herefordshire.

Mr. Greville H. Phillips, Chief Agricultural Officer, presided over the Hereford Branch Annual Dinner, those present including Alderman F. Ballard, Chairman of the County Council, Major T. P. P. Powell, O.B.E., Vice-Chairman, and other members of the County Council; Mrs. L. Luard, M.B.E., Mayor of Hereford; Colonel G. B. Heywood, T.D., the High Sheriff; Dr. E. W. Maples, O.B.E., Clerk of the County Council; Mr. G. H. Jack, County Surveyor; Mr. R. J. Cross, County Accountant; and Mr. A. P. Whitehead, Director of Education. In proposing the toast "The County Council" Mr. Jack said the relations between the Council and the staff had never before been so cordial. Alderman Ballard paid a high tribute to the staff, and in a reference to recent legislation said the work was bound to increase—"We members of the County Council will have to do more talking and you, the staff, will have to do more work." In replying to the toast of "The Association," Mr. Phillips spoke of the excellent work done by the Hon. Secretary. Mr. H. Tedstone, and urged that it was the duty of all officers to join the Association.

Newark.

A most successful Dinner and Dance has been held by the Newark Branch at the Town Hall. The Mayor and a large company were present.

Clacton.

The Clacton Branch held their Annual Dinner on the 4th February, under the Presidency of Mr. H. Jones, F.I.M.T.A., the Accountant to the Council. Amongst the guests present were the Chairman of the Council, Mr. J. E. Ball, J.P., and Mrs. Ball, and the President of the Colchester Branch, Mr. W. H. Soulby, M.Inst.T. After dinner the company adjourned to the ball-room for dancing, under the musical guidance of Messrs. Badger and Ayton, whose efforts added to the success of the evening. Mr. C. H. Joslin acted as M.C. A very enjoyable evening was spent by everyone through the arrangements carried out by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. C. H. Joslin, under the guidance of the Staff's Executive Committee.

Southport.

The Annual Dinner of the Southport Branch was held on February 6th—upwards of 130 members and friends being present. The President of the Branch (Mr. J. E. Jarratt) occupied the chair, and the guests of the evening included the Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman Tomlinson and Miss Tomlinson); Sir Godfrey Dalrymple-White, Bart., M.P. (Member for the Division); the Deputy-Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. Brook); Councillor Dr. Coates (Chairman of the Finance Committee); and Messrs. W. H. Whinnerah, C. A. Ruscoe and Haden Corser (D.O.S.), representing the North-Western District Committee. The Dinner was followed by an excellent concert which was greatly enjoyed by all present. Subsequently dancing was indulged in with great zest until the small hours, the music being provided by the hotel orchestra.

Dances.

Wakefield.

The members of the Wakefield C.B. Branch were granted the use of the Town Hall on the occasion of their Annual Ball on the 31st January. The Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman Burley Johnson, J.P., and Mrs. Johnson) were present, together with a number of members of the Council. The function was a great success, and highly enjoyed by those who attended.

Worcester.

The Worcester C.C. Branch's Annual Ball was held in the Shire Hall and was an extremely successful and enjoyable function. The attendance was a record, and the members' thanks are due to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. Smith, whose efforts made the success possible.

Stoke-on-Trent.

The Annual B. & O. Dance at Stoke-on-Trent was again a magnificent success, with an attendance of about 1,500 and over £200 to be divided between the Fund and the Rhyl Holiday Home for Children. Apart from the gain to two most deserving causes, the function was a very jolly one. Special thanks are due to the organisers, Mr. T. W. Poole, Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. P. Walker, Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. Derricott (Deputy Hon. Treasurer) and to Dr. and Mrs. Wotherspoon.

Bradford.

At the twentieth Annual Ball of the Bradford Branch the guests were received by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Alderman A. Rhodes, J.P., and Mrs. Rhodes). A large number of representatives of neighbouring Branches were present. A Whist Drive was held during the evening, and dancing was indulged in until a late hour.

Central Warwick.

The Central Warwick Annual Ball and Bridge Drive in aid of the B. & O. Fund was held in the Town Hall, Leamington. There was a large attendance and the function was the most successful yet held. We are grateful to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. R. D. Cameron, for his effort for the Fund.

Southport.

At the Southport Branch Annual Charity Ball over 360 members and friends attended and enjoyed what was afterwards described as "the event of the season." The Mayor and Mayoress of Southport (Alderman Tomlinson and Miss Tomlinson) were present, accompanied by numerous members of the local authority and other prominent townspeople. The function was a huge success and as a result of this effort the Branch has been able to forward a cheque for £28 14s. to swell their contribution to the B. & O. Fund.

Bath.

True N.a.l.g.o. comradeship was very much in evidence at the Dance organised by the Bath Branch, which took place in the Banqueting Room of the Guildhall on Friday, 31st January last. The dancers numbered over 250 and included the President (Mr. J. Basil Ogden, Town Clerk), the Deputy Town Clerk (Mr. S. Leighton Heard), the City Treasurer (Mr. H. H. Morgan), the City Engineer (Mr. F. P. Sissons), the Director of Education (Mr. A. W. Hoyle), and the Waterworks Engineer (Mr. P. Porteous).

Surely a Branch is ensured a much greater measure of success when the Chief Officials associate themselves with the various activities of the Branch. Bath is truly fortunate in this respect.

Halifax.

Amongst the guests present at the Halifax Branch Dance and Whist Drive was the President of the Yorkshire District, the Borough Engineer of Bradford, Mr. F. Marsden; whilst there were visitors present from Todmorden, Leeds, Bradford and Keighley. The arrangements were in charge of Mr. A. B. Annakin, social secretary of the Halifax Branch, who also acted as M.C. The stewards were Messrs. H. S. Sharpe and W. Maude. The prize-winners at whist were: Mrs. Marsden and Mrs. Harrison and Messrs. Olpin and Marsden.

Wallasey.

The popularity of the Wallasey Branch Ball increases year by year. This was evident from the way the public attended in large numbers the Annual Ball at the Town Hall, on the 7th February. The company numbered more than two hundred and sixty. As a result the Benevolent Fund should benefit considerably. The Mayor and Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. J. G. Storey) received the guests.

Cards and Concerts.

Hemsworth.

The Hemsworth Branch held a Whist Drive and Social on the 17th January in aid of the B. & O. Fund, when about 100 members and their friends were present. The President, who distributed the prizes, suitably addressed the gathering and congratulated the organisers on such a successful effort. The evening was also made the occasion for the presentation of a watch to Mr. E. W. Jennings, a member of the Accountants Staff, on his leaving to take up an appointment with the Thurnscoe U.D.C.

Plymouth.

The first of a series of monthly Whist Drives and Dances of the Plymouth Branch was a complete success, but the Committee hope that the next similar function will find still more members of the Branch in attendance. The Annual Dinner and Dance is to be held at the Royal Hotel on Thursday, 6th March, and it is expected that the Mayor and Mayoress will be present.

Worcester.

The Worcester Branch of the N.A.L.G.O. held their Annual Social Evening in the Guildhall on January 23rd by kind permission of His Worship the Mayor (Hon. John Coventry). The Whist Drive was followed by Dancing until 2 a.m., and the 234 guests who attended had a thoroughly enjoyable time. The Whist prizes were graciously presented by Mrs. Duckworth, wife of the President.

Great credit is due to Mr. P. M. Christian, the Socials Secretary, and his Committee for the excellent way in which the function was organised and carried out.

East Sussex.

The Annual Supper and Concert of the East Sussex Branch was held on February 7th at Lewes. The President (Mr. H. T. J. Mellveen, Clerk of the County Council) was in the chair and was supported by Mr. C. H. S. Ellis (Vice-Chairman of the County Council), other members of the County Council and Mr. C. W. Stephenson (Town Clerk of Lewes), the Chairman of the Lewes and District Branch.

Oxted.

The Oxted Branch Annual Social is now recognised as one of the most successful of the annual socials of the district, and this year's event proved no exception to the rule. All tastes were catered for, cards, games and dancing, songs and a sketch providing a varied and enjoyable programme.

Metropolitan District Committee.

The District Committee, at its meeting on the 7th March, 1930, expressed regret at the indisposition of Mr. F. R. Finch, and in his unavoidable absence Mr. A. A. Garrard was appointed to the Chair.

Resolutions of sympathy with the relatives of Mr. F. W. Ledger (Greenwich) and Mr. W. H. Morgan (Hammersmith), members of the Committee, who had died recently, were passed. As both had been members of the General Purposes Sub-Committee the appointment of two members to fill the vacancies was necessary, and Mr. C. J. Baritick (St. Marylebone) and Mr. S. E. M. Frankham (Hammersmith) were elected.

A motion submitted by Miss A. H. Page (Bethnal Green) requiring a meeting of the District Committee to be held immediately after the circulation of amendments to motions contained in the Agenda for the Annual Conference, if such Agenda contains a motion or amendment from a Branch in the area, was carried.

A proposition by the Romford Branch that the District Committee should table a motion for the Annual Conference to reduce the rates of subscription by 20 per cent. found no support.

The reports of various Sub-Committees were moved by the respective Chairmen:—Entertainments, Mr. E. H. Young (Willesden); Sports and Recreations, Mr. W. G. Macers (Camberwell); General Purposes, Mr. J. T. Baker (Lambeth and N.E.C.).

The District Committee approved a recommendation of the General Purposes Sub-Committee that grants of 2 gns. per week, not exceeding 24 gns. in all, be made to assist members of Branches to attend the Summer School at Keble College, Oxford, between 2nd and 16th August, 1930.

Metropolitan District Reunion.

The Annual Reunion and Bohemian Concert of the Metropolitan District will be held at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, on Friday, the 25th April.

In addition to the concert there will be a presentation of Sports Trophies by Mr. A. P. Johnson.

Application for tickets (Area and Grand Circle 2s. 6d., Balcony 1s. 6d. each) should be made immediately to Branch Secretaries in the District.

Long Service

MR. J. T. COWDEROY'S RECORD.

What must be a record in long service in Local Government may surely be claimed by Mr. John T. Cowderoy, Chief Sanitary Inspector of the Borough of Kidderminster, who commenced his official duties as assistant Inspector at Wolverhampton in March, 1878. He was appointed Inspector at Kidderminster in March, 1885, and is still in active service and enjoying good health.

MR. J. T. COWDEROY.

He obtained his Sanitary Inspector's certificate after examination in London in June, 1881, from the Sanitary Institute of Great Britain—the title in those days—and was the twenty-first Sanitary Inspector. He obtained an advanced certificate in Hygiene from the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, in 1884, and was elected a Fellow of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association in 1917.

Among the books he has written for the use of Inspectors are "Pocket Notes and Remembrancer for Sanitary Inspectors" (6th Edition), "Remembrancer and Guide to the Housing Acts" (2nd Edition), and "Notes on Food Inspection" (3rd Edition), and he has trained Inspectors who now hold leading positions under various Sanitary Authorities.

Mr. Cowderoy is a Freemason, and has just resigned after 13 years as Secretary of his Lodge. In recognition of his long service his Brethren have elected him an Honorary Member, being the third Honorary Member during a period of 126 years—the age of the Lodge. Mr. Cowderoy has compiled a Book of Landmarks of his Lodge.

MR. HENRY RICH, SHEFFIELD.

Another record, in regard to age as distinct from length of service, can probably be claimed by Mr. Henry Rich of the Sheffield Medical Officer's Department, whose colleagues celebrated his eightieth birthday recently by presenting him with an illuminated address, together with a smoker's cabinet, pipes and tobacco.

MR. HENRY RICH.

The presentation took place at the Child Welfare Centre, Orchard Place, when a large gathering of colleagues and associates of Mr. Rich attended.

Mr. Arthur Mobley, a member of the staff of the Medical Officer of Health, designed the address, which recorded that the recipient was "still on active service in the war against disease."

Incidentally, Councillor W. Asbury (chairman of the Health Committee), who associated himself with the gift and good wishes, announced that at the next meeting of the City Council steps would be taken to make it possible for officials of the Corporation to retire earlier than was at present possible. He could entertain no feelings of pride that an officer should feel compelled to remain at work until he was 80. (Sheffield has since adopted Superannuation.)

Mr. A. Green (chairman of the Staff Committee) presided, and with Dr. F. E. Wynne (Medical Officer), who made the presentation, Mr. W. W. Armitage (chairman of the Sheffield Branch), Mr. W. Nicholson (Chief Smoke Inspector and Mr. Rich's oldest colleague), and Mrs. Franks (Superintendent of the Maternity and Child Welfare Department), spoke in appreciation of Mr. Rich's personal and professional qualities and the splendid service he has rendered as a sanitary inspector in Sheffield for so many years.

Dr. Wynne said he thought that Mr. Rich must have created a record in public service in that he was still in harness at so advanced an age.

Mr. Nicholson described Mr. Rich as the "Peter Pan" of the Health Department.

Mr. Rich made a humorous reply, stating that he was satisfied that he had "done a fair whack" for the department. He said that he had always received kindness from his colleagues.

Movement of Members

Mr. F. Collinson, Atherton, to Rent Collector, Manchester City Council.

Mr. T. Watts, Bebington and Bromborough, to Assistant Clerk, Beddington and Wallington.

Mr. E. Godfrey, Bebington and Bromborough, to Borough Treasurer, Ilkeston Borough.

Mr. A. Hardy, Waterloo and District, to Audit Clerk, Staffs. County Council.

Mr. J. Hartley, Bootle, to Clerk to Building Inspector, Hornchurch U.D.C.

Mr. J. O'Connor, N.W.D. Small Auths., to Surveying Assistant, Finchley U.D.C.

Mr. R. S. Bellhouse, Nelson and District, to Engineer's Assistant, York City.

Mr. H. J. Stubbins, Cheshire County Officer, to Chief Assistant Librarian, Scarborough.

Mr. W. B. Stevenson, Wallasey Branch, to Chief Assistant Librarian, Hendon.

Mr. H. Morton, Wallasey, to Private Appointment, U.S.A.

Mr. J. Gordon Davies, Wallasey, to Private Appointment, Norwich.

Mr. E. R. Lightfoot, Wallasey, to Accountancy Assistant, Staffs. County Council.

Mr. G. W. Burford, Wallasey, to Weights and M. Inspector, Salford City Council.

Mr. I. L. James, Wallasey, to Architectural Assistant, London County Council.

Mr. G. E. Hayton, Waterloo, to Assistant Surveyor, Atherton U.D.C.

Mr. A. Motyer, S.E. District, to Carlisle C.B.

Mr. E. L. Pritchard, Newport (Mon.), to Accountant, Salford City.

Mr. J. A. Herbert, East Sussex, to Surveyor's Dept., Westmorland C.C.

Mr. G. Bevan, West Riding C.C., to Architect's Department, Denbighshire.

Mr. A. Camplin, Sheffield, to City Treasurer's Department, Salford.

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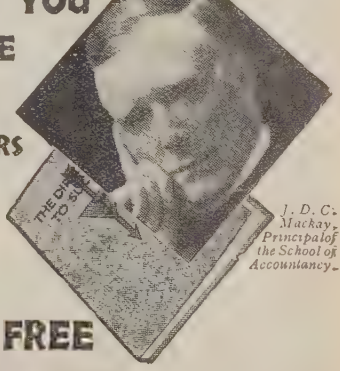

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Law and Government.

Judicial Powers of Departments.

Mr. Robson's Evidence.

The Committee appointed by the Lord Chancellor to consider the Judicial and Legislative Powers of Ministers of the Crown recently heard evidence given by Mr. William A. Robson, barrister at law, Lecturer in Industrial and Administrative Law at the London School of Economics and Political Science, and one of the Lecturers appointed to the Summer School.

Mr. Robson stated that an opposition existed in England between the ideas of law and of government. This was a heritage from the 17th century conflict between a sovereign claiming to rule by divine right and the nation claiming a supreme law to which even the sovereign should be subject. The struggle between King and Commons had now become transformed into a conflict between the Executive on the one hand and the Judiciary and the legal profession on the other. The latter, no doubt, regarded themselves as champions of the popular cause; but the existence of a State providing social services on a vast scale was due to the diffusion of voting power on a democratic basis throughout the community.

The scope and character of government had changed enormously in the last 50 years. Formerly, government was chiefly regulatory and negative: to-day it was largely concerned with the administration of social services, and had become positive in a new sense. The change necessitated new forms of administrative authority. In inquiring into the exercise of judicial powers by Government Departments it should not be assumed that the mere existence of legislative enactments conferring powers which precluded review by the Courts of Ministerial determinations was evidence of executive tyranny. Clearly the manner in which the powers were used was more important than the mere existence of statutory provisions. Nor must they assume that access to the Courts was inevitably a guarantee against Ministerial oppression.

"Most Tyrannical."

The most tyrannical Department in practice to be the Inland Revenue, which often threatened the citizen with litigation in the Courts if he ventured to disagree with an administrative decision. Fear of the cost and burdensome difficulty of litigation in the higher Courts was known by the Inland Revenue to be an effective method of crushing opposition to income-tax decisions. Another dangerous and unscientific assumption was the belief that immunity from control by the Courts of law involved an anarchical absence of all effective restraint whatsoever. It was suggested that criticism directed on *a priori* grounds against the exercise of judicial powers by Government Departments, &c., usually failed to take account of four important aspects of the situation: (1) Limitations to the suitability of the Courts to act as tribunals of review for certain types of administrative decisions; (2) the development of judicial habits of mind and a judicial outlook by administrators and other persons who were called on to decide practical issues; (3) the existence of potential control by Ministers over Civil servants and by Parliament over Ministers; and (4) the potential control exercised by public opinion over administrative officials. For these and other reasons he did not believe that it was desirable to give in every case a right of appeal to the Courts from the decision of the administrative body. Where that was done the determination of the administrative body was in all important cases merely a preliminary to Court proceedings. Although they should recognize the need for a true body of administrative law, he suggested that it was impossible to be satisfied with the existing state of affairs, which embodied neither the institutional safeguards of *droit administratif* nor the traditional guarantees of English judicial practice.

Mr. Robson referred to the advantages and disadvantages of administrative tribunals, and in his conclusions suggested, among other principles, that an administrative tribunal was the appropriate body for deciding questions in dispute where a new policy of social improvement was being promoted; where it was desired to create new standards rapidly in an unexplored field; where new or existing standards were to be applied or extended throughout the country and consistency and co-ordination were required. Administrative jurisdiction should not extend to matters already dealt with by the Courts of law—it should normally be concerned with disputes in which one or both parties were public authorities; an administrative tribunal should always have power to act as a tribunal of first instance; judicial powers should invariably be exercised by a definite tribunal consisting of public servants specially nominated for the purpose by the responsible Minister; an aggrieved party should always have a right to an oral hearing; administrative tribunals should have power to call for documents and compel the attendance of witnesses; the reasons for a decision and the principles followed should invariably be given; great attention should be paid to the qualifications, training, and experience of the *personnel* of administrative tribunals; the representation of outside interests on the tribunal was desirable in certain circumstances; the Ministerial control over the work of a tribunal should be strictly confined to directions as to principles to be followed contained in a letter of reference addressed to the members; in important questions an appeal should lie to a superior administrative appeal tribunal.

Educational Facilities.

Salford City Scheme.

The Executive Council of the Salford Branch have had under consideration for the past 18 months the question of the provision of educational facilities for the officers of the Salford Corporation, and recently requested the Joint (Staffs) Council, which consists of 9 members of the City Council and 9 members of the Salford Branch and functions on the lines of a Whitley Council, to take into consideration the question of recommending the City Council to afford facilities to approved officers to follow suitable courses of study related to the work of their respective departments.

The Staffs side of the Joint Council, at the request of the Joint Council, prepared a draft scheme embodying provisions to give effect to their views and, after amendment in one or two minor respects, the Joint Council unanimously recommended the scheme to the City Council for adoption.

The Scheme, which was adopted by the Council on 5th February, 1930, is as follows, namely:—

1. Subject to approval by the appropriate employing Committee, both of the officer concerned and of the course of study proposed to be pursued (which in all cases shall be related to the work of the department in which the officer is engaged), all officers up to and including 21 years of age shall be permitted, without any deduction from their respective salaries—

   (*a*) to attend daytime classes or pursue daytime courses of study; and

   (*b*) to attend evening classes or pursue evening courses of study.

2. The fees of officers up to and including 21 years of age attending evening classes and/or pursuing other courses of study in their own time, shall be paid by the Corporation up to a limit of £10 in each case.

3. With regard to officers over 21 years of age, permission to attend classes or pursue courses of study as mentioned in paragraph 1 hereof shall be granted, in the case of daytime courses, only in those cases in which the officer gives an undertaking to sit for examination for an academic, professional or vocational qualification related to the work of the department in which he is employed.

4. Subject to consideration of the merits of each particular case, it shall be competent for the Committee concerned, with the approval of the Staffs Committee, to grant to any officer under its control financial assistance, free of interest and repayable within such period as the employing Committee may decide, not exceeding an amount sufficient to cover the cost of books, class, coaching and/or examination fees and other necessary expenses in respect of any approved course of study.

The Holiday Bureau.

Planning a holiday may be a very pleasurable business, but it requires care and thought, and once the "when" has been settled details of the "when" and "how" are apt to puzzle. A wise plan is to consult the advertisements in the spring and summer issues of this Journal, which cover practically every form of holiday. In this issue, for instance, there are announcements of the Croyde Bay Holiday Camp, the Civil Servants Holiday Camp, and the Great Western Railway offering very pleasant holidays in England; Yeoward Bros. and the Canary Islands Cruise offering the sunshine and glamour of Morocco and Madeira. the Free Church Touring Guild, G. A. Wallace and Bradshaws Tours offering tours to delightful continental resorts.

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These delightful tours are well-known to Nalgo members and have been very popular with them for many years.

The Nalgo Holiday and Travel Bureau recommends them strongly, and programmes may be obtained from them or from

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AT SEA, ON THE CONTINENT
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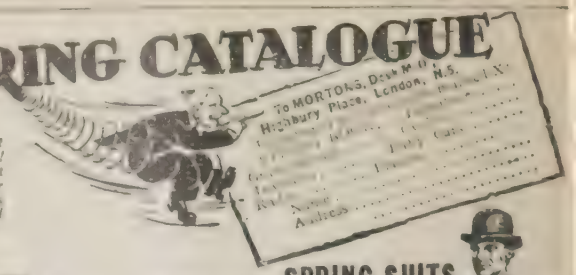

Be sure to see the new Morton "Handshake" Catalogue it is just published and contains over 100 pages packed with attractive merchandise! Everything for yourself and for your home and anything you choose sent to your Home on approval. Benefit by the variety and value offered in our [illegible] Deferred Terms of [illegible] Post this Coupon NOW and enjoy every page of this bright, new Spring Book and then enjoy the splendid Morton advantages! POST THE COUPON NOW!

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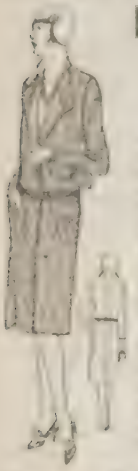

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Rates of **7/6** Monthly

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EASY TERMS. FREE INSURANCES

Spring! One at once thinks of new furnishings for the Home. Fresh curtains, Floor Coverings and new items in Furniture—something fresh and bright for a new Spring Season. With Furniture we offer a whole MONTH'S TRIAL on approval. The furniture (whether it be a single item or a complete Household), is returnable at once [illegible] Terms and FREE Fire and Life Insurances are available. We show a typical **Spring Suite**, 1'2'6 springs in fat'—the acme of comfort— [illegible] and back [illegible] Price £26 10s. 0d. by **14/9** Monthly

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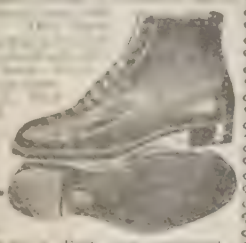

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[illegible] not, you should consider the facilities that a good machine affords—especially in the saving of fares—and think, too, how beneficial cycling is to one's Health! These facilities combined with the advantageous Terms offered in our Cycle Book make the purchase of a Cycle from Mortons [illegible] attractive transaction. [illegible] the leading makes and, moreover, offers model for a 3 days' Trial [illegible] Terms from 5/-. [illegible] if Trial [illegible]

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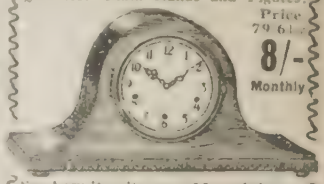

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In our Sewing Machine Catalogue you will find a suitable model—all are available for approval at Home. Extended Terms are always arranged to suit your convenience. **Mark and post the Coupon.**

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Price £12 by **17/6** Monthly.

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Are you a [illegible] Maybe you enjoy the delights of your own garden? Whatever outdoor recreation you indulge in, it will be greatly enhanced if you have a Portable Radio or Gramophone with you. At a moment's notice you can derive immediate and delightful musical entertainment—no matter where you may be. Why not try a Portable "on approval"? You can pay by Monthly Instalments, arranged to suit your convenience. The "Handshake" Catalogue contains a large range of "Portables"—**Post the Coupon** (On left and on right we show two specially attractive "Portable" offers.)

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Case covered sealgrained jet Fabric. Fitted with latest devices including combined carrying and winding handle and Automatic start and stop device. Space in lid for storing eight compact Portable [illegible] or [illegible] by **5/-** Monthly

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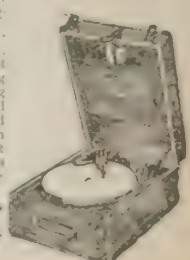

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The Nalgo Holiday Guide.

The new edition of the Nalgo Holiday Guide is bigger and better than previous issues. It contains 224 pages of information and advertisements, all of them of use and interest in planning a holiday.

There are over fifty pages of lists of accommodation addresses in Great Britain, *all of which have been recommended.* In addition there are special sections devoted to Foreign Travel and Cruises and to London as a Holiday Centre.

Not only is the new Guide a handsome production, well printed on good paper, in a blue and gold cover designed by Mr. L. Mew, of Nottingham, but it has been planned throughout to be of real use.

Despite the cost of the improvements effected the price of the Guide remains at 3d. per copy (less than the cost of the paper on which it is printed) plus postage at the following rates: 1 copy 3d., 2 copies 6d., 3-6 copies 9d., 7-10 copies 1s., 11-14 copies 1s. 3d., 15 copies and over 1s. 6d.

Reading Art Exhibition.

The recent Arts and Crafts Exhibition held by the Reading Branch of the N.A.L.G.O. raised a considerable sum for the B. & O. Fund by the sale of comic cartoons which had appeared in the "Sunday Referee" and the "Oxford Mail" respectively. The cartoon from the "Sunday Referee" was entitled "St. Swithin" and that from the "Oxford Mail" was "Yankee Hustle." These cartoons were much appreciated by visitors to the Exhibition, and the B. & O. Fund benefited to the extent of the entire proceeds realised, thanks to the generosity of the Editors of these two up-to-date enterprising journals.

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30 minutes from Liverpool Street. 25 PER CENT. LESS FOG THAN ELSEWHERE
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Sports and Recreations.

N.W. District Sports.

The Semi-Finals and Final of the North-Western District Billiards Competitions (Teams) was played on Saturday, 1st March, at Manchester. The four teams meeting in the Semi-Finals were: Salford, Birkenhead, Accrington, and Chorley. Salford beat Birkenhead 533-527; and Accrington beat Chorley 577-337. The Final resulted in Accrington beating Salford with the score 1,151-903. The winning team were presented with cases of knives and forks, and the runners-up with cut glass vases. Accrington have therefore once again carried off the Billiards Teams trophy which they held last year.

During the past season the North Wales District Sub-Committee, in conjunction with the North-Western District Committee, have held Billiards and Football competitions amongst the North Wales branches, for Prizes and Trophies. The results are as follows:—Colwyn Bay 700, Rhyl 515; Llandudno 551, Holywell 690; Colwyn Bay 600, Holywell 698. Medals were presented to the winning team (Holywell). In the Individual Billiards Competition the finalists were—Mr. Owen Jones (Llandudno) and Mr. W. Groom (Colwyn Bay), the former winning by 6 points in a game of 200 up. A silver cup was presented to Mr. Jones and a pipe to Mr. Groom.

Three teams entered for the Football Competition—Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, and Wrexham: Colwyn Bay U.D.C. 8, Llandudno U.D.C. 2; Wrexham R.D.C. 4, Colwyn Bay U.D.C 3. The final was played at Wrexham, the Wrexham Branch securing the Cup after a strenuous match.

The Teams, together with supporters from various branches, were entertained to tea by the Wrexham Branch and a pleasant evening was spent. Mr. R. Hext (Hon. District Secretary) on behalf of the District Committees presented the Cup to the winning team.

Metropolitan Whist Competition.

Divisional Winners:—Southern (Camberwell); South-Western (Surrey); Central (Holborn); Eastern (Bethnal Green); Northern (Tottenham); Western (Ealing).

Intermediate Round.—Surrey defeated Camberwell by 80 tricks. Bethnal Green defeated Holborn by 72 tricks.

Semi-Final.—Ealing defeated Surrey by 56 tricks. Bethnal Green defeated Tottenham by 86 tricks.

Final.—Ealing v. Bethnal Green is being played on March 28th.

Football—Colchester v. Clacton.

The Clacton Branch entertained Colchester at a very keenly contested game on the 8th February, which ended in a draw of 4 all. Both teams afterwards assembled for tea and everybody was kept amused by the humorous anecdotes of the members from both Branches. Mr. Joslin presided in the absence of the President and welcomed the visitors to Clacton, expressing the hope of increased meetings in various sports with the Colchester Borough Staff. Mr. Sargeant, Chairman of the Colchester Municipal Football Club, replying, thanked the Clacton Branch for the sporting game and for the excellent way in which they had entertained them to tea.

Southern District Football Cup.

Berks County Branch met Bucks in the First Round of the Southern District Cup at Reading and proved the winners by 5 goals to 1.

The semi-final was played between Bournemouth Branch and Bucks County Branch, on the ground of the Aldershot Motor Traction Co., Ltd., at Eggars Hill, Aldershot, on Saturday, 15th March. Bucks County won by 4 goals to nil.

Nalgo Rifle Clubs.

The leaders in the shoot for the "Gunner" Cup are Bournemouth A, Leeds, and Dundee.

The winner of the December "Kickers" Handicap was Mr. H. G. Randall, who shoots for Wiltshire County Branch, and this is the first time he has entered for the handicap.

The League Tourney for the "Sir Charles Behren" Cup will commence in a few weeks, and so far the following clubs have entered teams: Bournemouth, Leeds, Dundee, Manchester, West Riding, and Wilts County.

Worcestershire Sports Club.

The Worcestershire County Officers have formed a Sports Club. The Clerk of the Council has kindly granted the use on two evenings per week of the large Hall of the Shirehall. In this room Badminton and Table Tennis are played. It is hoped to start an Indoor Rifle range very shortly. The Club has started with a membership of about 70.

Football—Bucks v. Hendon.

The Bucks County Branch met the Hendon Borough Branch at football at Aylesbury and won a keenly contested game by three goals to two. The homesters entertained Hendon to tea, and the Captain of the visitors, in thanking Bucks, truly said that the match had been played in the real Nalgo spirit. The Bucks team are anticipating with pleasure the return fixture at Hendon, which has been arranged for 12th April.

Worcester Branch Billiards.

The Worcester Branch have just concluded a highly successful Billiards Handicap. Twenty entries were received and some interesting games resulted. It also enabled the members to meet socially, and some enjoyable evenings were spent. The President (Mr. Duckworth) presented the prizes at the General Meeting on February 12th to the winner and runner-up, Mr. J. Swift, the winner, receiving an ebony and ivory walking stick, and Mr. H. Newton Perks a gramophone record of festival music. A Snooker handicap is to be organised immediately.

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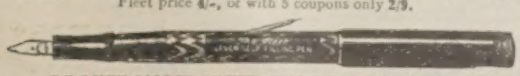
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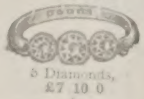

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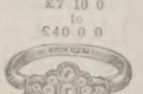

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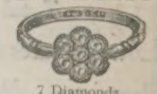

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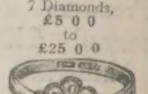

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